

The 2nd Amendment ensures the right bear arms.

Oregon needs less government involvement in the lives of Oregonians. Has there been a study showing the majority of gun crimes are committed by people that are unable to pass a CBC (Criminal Background Check) in the first place? Are the crimes being committed by someone who is not legally permitted to own a firearm but manages to possess one none the less? Is there anything statistically validating the idea that the majority of gun crimes committed would have been prevented by requiring the offending person to pass a CBC?

Even the current gun laws are prohibitive of a lawful citizen owning a gun. Currently, the law prevents a mature middle age adult from owning a gun if they have a one time incident of domestic violence on their record that occurred twenty or thirty years ago. A one time incident.

Imagine a young married couple just learning to deal with the stresses of marriage, get into an argument. Perhaps things are already strained between the couple due to any number of circumstances, a situation that occurs between most couples at some point in the relationship. Imagine a young couple who have not learned to deal effectively with their anger. Perhaps they have a night of legal partying and drinking. A fight starts, things spiral out of control, things are said and objects are thrown. Someone gets pushed, falls and become injured, the police get involved and so on from there.

Then life happens and that young person matures and learns through their mistakes never again letting things spiral out control to that degree. Now the person is forty or fifty years old. Leaving behind their out of control angry youth years.

However, they are never allowed to own a firearm. Where I live hunting is nearly a prerequisite for citizenship. That form of recreation though is off limits to this changed and perfectly reasonable person. This unfair law is in effect today.

Imagine a young 18 year old that joins the army and is sent on active duty. This young person decides they have made a grievous mistake in joining the military. Being immature and unable to comprehend the gravity of their decision they choose a dishonorable discharge after returning home. Under this bill they are no longer allowed to own a firearm.

Now imagine (if this bill is passed), a person passes the CBC, owns a firearm legally and then commits a gun crime. Imagine it is discovered this person is using anti-depressants. How long do you think it would be before a 'mental condition' includes treatment for depression, or seeing a therapist for minor stress issues? That will exclude about half the population. Which seems to be the intent of this bill.

Compare the use of aircraft used in the killing of thousands of innocent people. Would requiring a CBC before being allowed to board the plane prevent it? Drug dealers use vehicles to arrange pick up or sell illegal drugs. Would requiring CBC's to obtain a driver's license stop vehicles from being used in the pursuit of illegal drugs?

This bill will only add financial burden and red tape to lawful citizens that already play by the rules. Don't punish the innocent. Please, let us use common sense tactics to prevent crimes. Remember criminals are not likely to go through the process of legally owning a firearm.

Thank you for your time

Respectfully,
Diana Ridenour