

I would love to testify against this bill, but I have to work to pay taxes tomorrow.

I am writing to you today to tell you how much I oppose SB 941.

Laws only affect the law abiding. My 25 plus years in law enforcement have shown me that time and again. Criminals do not purchase guns, they steal them; which allows them to avoid background checks. Those bent on the evil of committing rapid mass murder at malls or schools aren't going to be dissuaded or stopped because you made them pay a 35 dollar transfer fee and go through a criminal background check with a Federally Licensed Gun Dealer. People who decide that they wish to use a gun for evil purposes will be absolutely unaffected by the legislation you are proposing to enact.

The police could have had the serial number of the rifle Adam Lanza's mom owned months before he stepped onto the school grounds at Newtown; and it still wouldn't have stopped him. The police could have had the serial number of the guns that Kip Kinkel used, and it wouldn't have affected the outcome.

Passing laws that make people feel good, but have no effect on what you are trying to accomplish does nothing but burden the law abiding. With the addition of Mark Haas wanting this to include EVERY "transfer" that I can promise you that the law will make criminals of everyone that shows their new hunting rifle to a friend and hands it to him to inspect, every person that hands a gun to their wife to shoot on the range during practice or classes, and every firearms instructor that would pass guns to students to borrow or use while learning.

The one thing I learned about when I was a young man in the military is that you should not give direction or orders that cannot be enforced. What will be the enforcement mechanism for this law? Will the State Police be going "undercover" at every shooting school and gun range to catch people passing guns back and forth to each other? The fact that Sheriffs are opposing you now should tell you that this law is wrong headed and not thought out.

And attempts to move this into law with little debate and under the cover of it being an "emergency" disrespects the political process.

I do not need the permission of the government or a "by your leave" from the bureaucracy to exercise the right to own, use or transfer the tools of self defense.

The state having a record of the firearm I "transferred" to another person will have as much effect in stopping gun crime as having a record of my selling ("transferring") a car will have on drunk driving.

I will not comply.

*David Bowman*

**"The rifle itself has no moral stature, since it has no will of its own. Naturally, it may be used by evil men for evil purposes, but there are more good men than evil, and while the latter cannot be persuaded to the path of righteousness by propaganda, they can certainly be corrected by good men with rifles." Col. Jeff Cooper**