

Senate bill 941 is a bill that will only hamper the ability of law abiding citizens to legally obtain a firearm for self protection, target practice or hunting, without having any appreciable affect on the ability of criminals to obtain firearms through illegal channels. Self protection being a God given right and a Constitutionally guaranteed right enshrined in the Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. This bill will be a registration system of firearms and citizens. History has repeatedly shown that all gun registration systems result in confiscation as seen in California, Connecticut, New York and of course by the National Socialist Party of the Weimar in pre-war Germany, also known as the Nazis. Democrats in this country say "that will never happen here". We only have to look at the non-sense of the past few years and ask again "that can't happen here?"

The Massachusetts policeman John Moynihan was shot in the face at point blank range by Angelo West a criminal with a history of gun violations and arrested for a police shooting in 2001. Mr. West and other criminals would never be affected by a law like S-941. They will not show up at an FFL dealer and sign an ATF 4473, preferring to acquire their weapons "on the street." Even if Mr. West or any other criminal signed a 4473 and was denied the purchase by the instant check system the odds of him being investigated much less arrested would be less than 1%. Yes less than 1%. Lying on the ATF 4473 form is a felony punishable by up to 10 years in prison. A Department of Justice report in 2010 revealed that 72,600 persons had lied on this form. Prosecutors pursued only 44 of the denials. Not 44%. Just 44 total cases. That is only 0.06% of all people who committed a felony by lying on the ATF 4473 form were prosecuted. Also a 2001 Department of Justice report revealed that 79% of criminals got their guns somewhere other than a retail store or licensed gun dealer.

This onerous law S-941 would unduly burden the law abiding citizens of the state while doing nothing to hamper illegal gun ownership by criminals. It also becomes a defacto gun registration scheme to be used by a despotic administration at a later time to confiscate those registered firearms.

I urge the members of this legislative body to table this bill permanently to give the law abiding citizens of Oregon relief from yet another firearms law that only affects the law abiding citizens of Oregon.

Respectfully submitted

Dan Harper