

Mr. Rhoades,

I read Senator Thatcher's e-mail (below) today with a real sense of distress at the actions of the Senate Judiciary Committee. Why is this bill being pushed through so fast and with a single public hearing? I won't comment on my opinion of the bill to you, that is not your function. However, it is certainly within your purview to answer to the public as to the mechanics of this bill's astonishing pace from introduction to its planned exit from the Judiciary Committee on April 2nd. Is the bill that simplistically written? Having read the editor's brief statement, I know that certainly is not the case. Are there so little chances of unintended consequences? Is it laziness? Or an attempt to bypass public reaction to a bill that curtails our rights as part of an agenda? Why is this bill declared an emergency, and what are the requirements to declare a bill to be an emergency measure? I urge you to delay the exit of this bill from committee and make an honest attempt to gather public reaction as you would for any other bill before you try to deny the public our right to review and comment on this one.

Thank You,

Mark Kramer

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**State Senator Kim Thatcher  
Senate District 13**

News Release

April 1, 2015

Contact: William Newell

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***Universal Background Check Bill Rushed Through Committee With Little Public Input***

Salem, OR - Today, the Senate Judiciary Committee held a public hearing on Senate Bill 941 which would create a universal background check system in Oregon.

The bill will likely pass out of the Judiciary Committee on a party line vote on April 2nd, after being introduced on March 26th. This means that the bill will just have six business days for the public to submit comments. Only one day has been set aside to consider any changes to the bills.

"My office alone has received hundreds of calls and thousands of emails opposing SB 941," explained Senator Thatcher. "The bill is being unfairly rushed through the legislative process denying Oregonians their right to comment on the bill or to make any changes. We haven't even had enough time to read the hundreds of pieces of testimony submitted to the Legislature on the bill."

SB 941 is scheduled for a work session on April 2nd. If you would like to submit testimony on the bill you may [email](#) it to Jeff Rhoades, Judiciary Committee counsel by 5:00pm today. If you are not able to send your testimony in time, you may [email](#) it to Senator Thatcher's office.

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