

To whom it may concern,

April Fool's Day in Salem this early morning was no disappointment. The SB941 hearing brought all the usual suspects from both pro and con. After two hours of statistics, and emotional wrangling, I still find myself in the con camp regarding SB941. It is pretty clear to me that most of these murder-suicide shootings, regardless of number of victims happen with stolen weapons, or ones that manage to make it through the NICS by persons who should have been denied, or a combination of those things.

The murder-suicide by Andrew Fryberg in Washington was done with a stolen weapon. He father who had a domestic violence and restraining order against him, none the less passed the NICS five times. So his son had five firearms from which to choose to perpetrate his crime. Why wasn't his father denied? Why wasn't that data uploaded to the NICS so he could be denied? 4 died including Fryberg.

The murder-suicide by Jacob Roberts at the Clackamas Town Center was done with stolen weapons. The NICS would not have helped there. Luckily he saw a CHL holder and ended his rampage before he could kill or wound more. 3 died including Roberts.

Adam Lanza, long history of pretty much everything disorder. This wack job's mother for some reason thought it would help him if became familiar with firearms. She was his first victim, having stolen her weapons to begin his killing spree. 27 innocents slaughtered at Sandy Hook Elementary School, no NICs would have helped there. A mental healthcare system breakdown clearly happened.

Another glaring mental healthcare system breakdown occurred with Jared Loughner's attack on Rep. Gifford. Because no mental health care professional would submit him to the database of undesirables he passed the NICS when he purchased his weapon. Loughner was stopped from committing suicide, and has been judged a paranoid schizophrenic not competent to stand trial. Guess he's finally getting the help he needs. I bet the Arizona tax payers are happy about that. He leaves behind 6 needless, preventable killings because of professional irresponsibility.

As I sat listening to speaker after speaker it dawned on me how few of the NICS denied individuals ever face serious consequences for breaking the law by trying to purchase a firearm. Where are the arrests of these people? A goodly percentage of those denied by the NICS are felons and fugitives trying their luck at the gun store or gun show. But there doesn't seem to be much of a follow through by law enforcement. I know in my county, Polk, that that may very well be due to budget constraints imposed by the 2nd Greatest Depression. But what of the wealthier areas, Portland, Lake Oswego, and such. What is their excuse? These felons just walk away to try another day, or go straight to the black market of stolen firearms, or just steal some themselves. You've had since 1998 to work out the bugs on the current NICS process, but big inefficiencies still remain. Sixteen years may not be enough, so until the kinks are worked out further burden should not be place on the NICS by expanding it. Lets close the bureaucratic loopholes first.

There I made it through without bringing up the 2nd Amendment. Whoops.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Harry W Wallace,

Sheridan Resident, Polk County