

Wade S. Gibson

SB 941 Testimony

I attended the hearing today in the State capital but was not able to testify due to short time allowed and the overabundance of participants. I am against the passage of SB 941. I feel this will unduly infringe on my 2nd amendment rights and will have no effect on the gun violence in the state of Oregon. I listened to many testimonies about the tragic deaths caused by criminals engaging in gun violence. I did not here any testimony attributing the acquisition of any of the firearms used in the crimes acquired through private individual gun sales. There was an incident involving 14 year old children shooting at other children and citizens in Portland but these children did not buy their weapons they stole them. The Clackamas Town Mall shooting was another example used. Again this firearm was not purchased it was stolen the day before it was used in this senseless shooting. I witnessed photos shown of hand guns seized by the police in drug raids but again these firearms were not linked to legal sales. I can only assume they were stolen from legal gun owners also. I believe suicide is a tragic event but forcing background checks on citizen to citizen sales as a solution to anger & depression issues is a far stretch.

I heard testimony about the rate of arrest of felons who attempted to purchase firearms with our current background check system. Though they were stopped from purchasing a firearm legally they paid no penalty for this unlawful behavior. Of the number of successful denials of felons attempting to purchase weapons only 1% are being arrested for this violation of current law. I also heard gun store owners testify to long waits in the afternoon for instant background checks. This would lead me to believe the current system is over loaded and could not possibly handle the increased volume in its current state.

My conclusion after listening today is this is an emotional based argument in favor of this bill SB 941 with no basis in fact or common sense. I believe the legislature would be serving the people of Oregon best by dropping this bill and pursue improving enforcement of current law. Apprehend the felons attempting to purchase firearms and prosecute them to the full extent of the law. Enforce sentencing lengths of convicted drug dealers who possess illegal firearms when apprehended.

Sincerely

Wade S Gibson

38150 Jasper Lowell RD

Jasper OR 97438