

Brian Hodson  
Mayor  
Canby, OR  
182 N. Holly Street  
Canby, OR. 97013

March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015

As the Mayor of the City of Canby I have been asked by several of my Councilors and by several of my citizens my opinion regarding the proposed legislation outlined in SB 941 which calls for background checks on the transactions between private citizens.

In reading the language in SB 941, the statistics out of the state of Washington, and speaking with Canby's police Chief, this bill is going to do nothing to make the community of Canby safer. It will layer addition regulations and laws on law abiding citizens, will eventually lead to more regulation, and add a greater burden on our police forces.

Current legislation and background system does not statistically increase public safety. In instances where firearms have been used, they have been used in criminal acts or by persons with mental health issues. *The firearms were secured by means that do not require a background check.* To me this, criminal procurement and mental health issues, are where our legislatures, State and federally, need to be focused.

By placing focus on "straw purchasing" and increasing penalties for doing so could make a legitimate difference in gun violence and crimes. This has been used in several cases across the country. By placing focus here and using aspects already in place we can make an impact where it is needed most, at the criminal level.

We all know that if a firearm is wanted bad enough, a way to get it will be found. I ask that everyone consider what they are elected for – to create legislation that has time and time again had no statistical impact on crimes where a firearm is used or truly dig into the harder aspects that will have lasting impacts? Please vote NO on SB #491.

Sincerely,



Brian Hodson  
Mayor  
City of Canby, OR.  
"The Garden Spot"