

I was at the Senate committee hearing for Senate Bill 941 this morning. Public testimony was cut off at 10 o'clock and I was unable to speak.

My name is Gary Burns, I oppose Senate Bill 941. I am a lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Disabled American Veterans organizations. I am concerned that the Senate bill unfairly targets veterans there seems to be no relief provided in the bill for veterans. I do not understand how this bill could even be brought as it appears to be unconstitutional. My rights as a citizen under the U.S. Constitution concerning firearms shall not be infringed. This is not like the state's ability to require driver's license. The ability to regulate firearms was thought given to the states.

Much of the opposition support Senate Bill 941, used statistics from the Internet, those sources are suspect. I heard 80 and 81% of the voters support this bill, I cannot believe that to be true. I think the only statistics presented that can be verified are those of the Oregon State Police. Many of the instances that were described to have been committed using guns were not perpetrated by a person who would be caught under this bill.

Rather than go after law abiding citizens you should strengthen Oregon's mental health capabilities so there can be better recognition of the mentally ill and better treatment of those people.

I noted the people in opposition to the bill heavily outnumbered people in support of the bill at the hearing but the chairman only called those witnesses in a relatively even manner, when if drawn in proportion to the witnesses on hand, those in opposition would have easily used 75% of the hearing time. While this may have been good as far as getting both sides views out it also skews the testimony to seem nearly even. While in truth there were many many more in opposition to this bill.

Many of the witnesses for Senate Bill 941 expressed that the bill provides the only way for a private transfer be completed away federal firearms licensed dealer. That is untrue, right now today, you can go to a dealer and do exactly people said they want to be able to do. It can be done today no law needs to be changed. Senate Bill 941 Does not change the fact that a person can voluntarily give a background check through a FFL dealer.

There are many other things but it took time to get back home and I must file this before five thanks for listening.

I oppose Senate Bill 941.

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