

Pay Attention To Senator Thatcher:

"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."

"I share your concerns about the effort to once again push legislation forward that will compromise the rights of law abiding citizens while doing nothing to enhance public safety. I am not convinced Senate Bill 941 will encourage criminals to go to a federally licensed gun dealer (assuming one is available and willing to do the transfer) to run a background check on their fellow criminals. Those people will break whatever laws are in place if they seek to do harm to others, while citizens who try to obey the law will have onerous burdens to bear.

I would rather see Oregon lawmakers focus their energy on enforcing the penalties we already have on the books to stop violent offenders and improve our current system to help responsible gun owners defend themselves and others in the community."

**Thank You!
R.Pope**

Pay Attention to Sheriff Pat Garrett of Washington County:

- 1. *"I am concerned criminals will get around the new law by accessing firearms another way. For more than a few criminals, the threat of a misdemeanor criminal charge will not be a significant deterrent.***
- 2. *The law will be onerous for law abiding citizens with layers of new requirements. Many Oregonians are serious sport shooters, hunters and collectors. Frequently and with great care, they buy, sell and trade firearms with each other. I am concerned this law could create crimes and criminals out of otherwise law abiding people. Also, it's unclear what priority prosecutors and stressed court systems will place on charging people who up to this time were crime-free except for an unauthorized gun transfer under this new law.***
- 3. *I am concerned that much of this law will be unenforceable. It's unclear how law enforcement will learn of unauthorized transfers, and in many cases it will be very challenging to disprove a claim that a transfer was temporary in nature and therefore authorized. Laws that are largely unenforceable diminish respect for the law in general, which we do not need in today's environment.***
- 4. *I am concerned how the State plans to account for the fiscal impact and increased pressure on the current background check system. The State's background system is already heavily burdened, and additional requests could significantly slow the system further, unless additional funds are provided to bolster capacity."***

Thank You!
R.Pope

Pay Attention to Sheriff Bruce Riley of Linn County:

"As Sheriff of Linn County I am frequently asked by citizens my opinion on proposed legislation. There are many bills before the Oregon State Legislature this year that in my opinion, are cause for concern. One of these bills is SB 941 which calls for background checks on the private party transaction of firearms.

While this bill may look good on the surface, don't be fooled; It does nothing to make our families, communities, schools or businesses safer. Adding additional requirements and unnecessary laws for law abiding citizens is a waste of time and resources; time and resources that could be better spent on stiffening our current laws that deal with crimes committed with guns and the mental health issues that currently face our community every day.

As your Sheriff, I am committed to keeping guns away from criminals. I am equally committed in allowing law abiding citizens the right to possess firearms without further infringement."

Thank You!

R.Pope

I urge you to OPPOSE Senate Bill 941, a bill that will not only eliminate the private sale of firearms in Oregon, but which is chock-full of errors and mistakes.

To begin with, every time a person hands a gun to another person for any reason, even for ten seconds, this bill would appear to require a Brady Check (according to section 2).

But if anyone thinks there are exceptions for the shooting range, hunting, etc.? They need to think again.

For any of these exceptions to apply -- hunting, shooting, firearms repair, protection of your family -- one has to have "NO reason to believe the transferee is prohibited from possessing a firearm" ... NONE WHATSOEVER.

Even the craziest version of this statute being foisted in other states requires, at least, negligence. But this draft would put gun owners in prison if there were any reason at all for believing the guy you are handing your gun to is prohibited from taking it, however crazy the reason.

Just to give an example, there are tens of thousands of military veterans (suffering from PTSD) have been deemed as prohibited persons in this country. So, to put this whole problem in perspective, if my neighbor is a veteran and he comes over to my house, he can't handle one of my guns for even a second. Why? Because I cannot claim that I have "no reason" to believe my neighbor might be a prohibited person.

In other words, a person doesn't have to be a prohibited person to make it illegal for you to transfer a firearm to them. One only has to have a "reason to believe" they might be a prohibited person -- no matter how far-fetched that reason might be.

The universal background check requirement in this bill is a real problem. To begin with, most of Oregon is not densely populated. So if someone wants to sell their gun to their next-door neighbor, whom they've known all their life, they have to take a day off of work, drive with their neighbor to the nearest FFL, pay whatever fee the FFL chooses to charge, and hope that he or she is not one of the 8% of all Brady Law transactions who get either a "false red" or a "false yellow."

If either of these happens, perhaps because the neighbor's name resembles someone else's, the neighbor can pretty well give up any hope of ever purchasing a gun again in Oregon.

And then there is the problem of ATF's de facto national gun registry. Increasingly, that agency is going into gun dealers and demanding to copy many or all of the dealer's 4473's in computer-readable form. So, if every gun purchaser has a 4473 because every gun purchaser has to go through a Brady Check, then every gun owner will be entered into the registry.

For all these reasons, please OPPOSE Senate Bill 941.

Thank You!

R.Pope

Sir:

“Democracy is two wolves and a lamb voting on what to have for lunch. Liberty is a well-armed lamb contesting that vote.”



Thank You!
R.Pope

"Gun Crimes Plummet Even as Gun Sales Rise"

Facts:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HRSO1I4AWIo>

Thank You!

R.Pope