

## **“A Flawed Premise Leads to Expensive Political Boondoggles”**

Greetings,

Elected Lawmakers, Fellow Oregon Citizens, Voters, and distinguished Guests; gathered here today for this most important discussion.

Thank you for your consideration in allowing one perspective on this volatile and divisive issue presented before you today.

Please give yourselves time to reflect before you enact this controversial law in our beloved State of Oregon.

By its title; SB 941 – titled : “Oregon Firearms Safety Act” evokes expectations of SAFETY FROM HARM by FIREARMS TO ALL CITIZENS and VISITORS in Oregon!

The Title is false and misleading, and SB 941's enactment will undoubtedly lead to challenges based on ORS and U.S. Constitutional Law.

We can expect an onset of expensive and ongoing litigation at Taxpayer's expense, if SB 941 is enacted.

IMHO: Why not focus on a remedy to Funding Gaps for Law Enforcement; in order to stop the proliferation of Criminal Behavior leading to Gun Violence?

Laws already exist, Elected Lawmakers.

Please allow them to be enforced before burdening Taxpayers and Voters by enacting unnecessary Legislation, with unforeseen consequences.

Statistics and studies provided by others in testimony here demonstrate that criminals bypass all gun-control laws.

Without Enforcement, Laws alone aren't effective.

Prohibition of Legally Enacted Transactions between Private Citizens is a debacle to be avoided, and distracts from the real work to curb Gun Violence.

If SB 941 is enacted, an immediate, real-time Negative Economic Impact on Citizens engaged in Commerce, Recreation, and Defense will be felt.

The possibility of Endangered Lives and Property is very real; through the Prohibitions within this flawed piece of legislation.

Please give consideration to casting your Vote in Opposition to this divisive and costly experiment and instead, work with Firearms Owners and law Enforcement cooperatively.

Let's get together and look at this a different way - to educate away fears, and promote a safer environment – perhaps through more efficient allocation of funds for Mental Health Services and Law Enforcement.

The use of either ;personally inflammatory or condescending language, when discussing an important issue of concern to all, often results in offending otherwise partnered individuals – and can cause delay, division, and a failure to advance important work.

A more effective approach would be to cooperatively find common ground, and put into place sensible and sustainable guidelines for all present and future Citizens.

Imagine the outcry throughout your Constituencies if a Prohibition on the private sale of motor vehicles, without a Universal Background Check, was made into Law; based on the fear of a perceived threat. \*(The following is a hypothetical example):

\*"The rise in Hit and Run accidents in the Portland Metropolitan area should be of grave concern to all voters, throughout all regions of Oregon, and must be stopped.

No more unregulated Private Sales of Motor Vehicles!"

(ironic sarcasm – no offense intended to the victims of these preventable tragedies.)

Considering the Rights of Law Abiding Citizens engaged in Protected Activities should be the first Order of Business for Elected officials in our Representational Democracy.

Please remember two things Lawmakers:

First – Our Rights Do Not End where Emotions Begin.

Second - Voters invited you to Work for Them, and can take away your privilege, by Recall, or by voting for someone more to their satisfaction in the next election.

Ultimately, despite victories in early stages by challengers, Constitutional Law prevails over the ebb and flow of failed legislative experiments.

The Constitution is what We the People are United by – not the whim of zealots, of any persuasion.

Please don't take Oregon down the road to endless litigation by Legally Entitled Individuals and Business Owners on one side, vs. thoughtful, yet misinformed parties on the other.

Increased lawlessness by criminals is the only certain outcome.

Please vote No on SB 941

Thank you most sincerely, for your time and consideration,

A Concerned Native Oregon Resident

P.S. Please take the time to review this informative link, thank you:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colorado\\_recall\\_election,\\_2013](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colorado_recall_election,_2013)

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Oregon State Senate,

Please take a moment to reflect on this:

My ex- wife's Grandfather, a beloved companion of many, took his life with a hunting rifle in his bathroom at home.

I helped clean up the physical aftermath, and coped with personal shock and grief as a result of his violent act.

I witnessed the effect his actions had on his friends and loved ones.  
The emotional impact far outlasts the event.

I understand, and can empathize with those who are victims of this, and other types of firearms abuse - and who believe erroneously that UBC's will stop it.

I lost another friend, who was killed in a hunting accident; where he shot himself in the face while removing a loaded rifle from the truck rack - in front of his wife and small children.  
Another example of abuse of a weapon.

Both individuals were licensed Oregon hunters with impeccable credentials, who would easily have passed the most stringent background check, if they were required.

A UBC would not have prevented this.

As anyone who delves into true the history of mass killings, gun violence, and crime knows - the actions are perpetrated by individuals who circumvent laws - or are those in full compliance with existing statutes.

A person determined to wreak havoc will find a way to do it - no matter what laws are in place, or what devices are available. They will find a way do do violence and destruction..

History also teaches us that Prohibitions do not work to curb Lawlessness - but only increase Lawless Behaviors.

Please vote against SB 941.

Although it is well intended, I believe it will tend to become an expensive boondoggle of litigation and administration, and never solve the problems of those who put forth this legislation for a vote.

Thank you again for your attention, and consideration.

Sincerely, D.Ed Guinn

[https://www.law.cornell.edu/constitution/second\\_amendment](https://www.law.cornell.edu/constitution/second_amendment)

[http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/us/definition/american\\_english/infringe](http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/us/definition/american_english/infringe)