

Respected Representatives,

I am writing in opposition to SB-941. This bill will not prevent criminals from obtaining guns and presents an undue and unconstitutional burden against law abiding citizens. At best it adds additional taxes and hurdles to the free exercise of a constitutional (State and Federal) right. But when evaluated in context of the continual push by gun control supporters, it is a very big step towards a registration of all firearms and firearm owners. In fact, the only way for this bill to be enforceable is if it is coupled with a complete registry of all firearms.

The author and champion of the bill, Senator Prozanski admits that it will not keep criminals from getting guns. Many Sheriffs have testified that the law is unenforceable and misguided.

This bill also represents an offensive intrusion of out of state money and influence into the realm of Oregon politics. Michael Bloomberg paid for the election of this bill's sponsors, and all of the advertising in support of it. His influence should not impact the rights of Oregon citizens. Our constitutionally protected rights are not negotiable or contingent on the latest fad/funding source for political power grabs. There are plenty of opportunities to prevent violence without focusing on the law abiding citizens exercising their rights.

Please step back from the politics and drama behind the issue and evaluate the goal and potential effectiveness of this bill. If someone is planning to purchase a weapon to commit murder, rape or other violent crime, do you really think that they will care if they are breaking the law by not getting a background check when they buy their weapon on the black market or steal it? This bill, by its very nature, will only impact those citizens who are inclined to obey the law in the first place. Those are not the people we need to be focusing our attention and efforts on.

I ask that you oppose this measure and uphold the oath you swore to protect the rights of the citizens of Oregon.

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