

Dear Senators,

I strongly oppose SB 797 which gives the Oregon State Police the power to deny a firearm's transfer, literally forever. Currently, the OSP regularly delays or denies firearm sales to buyers who are qualified to purchase; it's a documented fact that almost all, (95%, according to Representative Jennifer Williamson) OSP firearms transfer delays are in error. Imagine 95% of all delays are in error... How can that be? Rather this Bill is essentially a back door "de facto" gun control bill as it effectively eliminates the 3 day clause that has been in practice since the passage of the Brady Bill. In essence, the OSP would have the power to indefinitely delay a firearm transfer. That's an outright violation of not only Oregonians United States Constitutional Rights, but is also clearly in violation of our Oregon State Constitutional Rights. Correct the defects in the OSP system include mental health records. Better yet, disband this function all together and move to the FBI NICS background check process. The OSP background check process is woefully inadequate for the volume of checks and data quality issues that they encounter. With that in mind, you cannot, in good conscience, penalize and/or criminalize lawful and qualified buyers because OSP fails or is wholly unable to do their job correctly. This is especially true in cases where the firearms dealer knows the buyer personally and knows he or she is qualified. Stop trampling on our Civil Rights

Additionally, I also strongly oppose SB 868. This bill would allow a person to have his or her rights to own a gun stripped away simply because he or she already bought a firearm or ammunition within the last 180 days! Would you deny somebody the right to buy a second car because they bought one, or put gas in one, within the last 180 days? Or purchased and used prescription drugs, or visited the hospital? All three of those; cars, prescription medication and hospitals, are known and documented to be responsible for more deaths than guns. This bill is just a blatant attack on an individual's right to keep and bear arms. Furthermore, most of the behaviors listed in SB 868 as reasons to take away a person's firearms already disqualify one for firearm ownership, but this bill ALSO allows a person to lose his gun rights because of "unlawful and reckless display or brandishing of a firearm." What exactly is "reckless display or brandishing?" Finally, SB 868 provides exactly ZERO help for a person who is truly a danger to themselves and ZERO protection for any family member who is actually in danger from the person whose rights will be taken. If the person who loses his or her rights is really, truly dangerous, nothing in this bill addresses that danger. Remember that the role of government is to protect and defend the rights of citizens and other legal residents; both of these bills fail that test miserably; they're thinly veiled disarmament and gun confiscation bills. I urge you to vote NO on both of these egregious attacks on my rights. Instead, I encourage those legislators who continue to imagine and contrive ways to hinder and harass law-abiding gun owners in the State of Oregon to stop it, and to spend more time finding, defining and prosecuting REAL criminal behaviors.

I implore you to honor your sworn oath:

**Article IV, Legislative
Section 31. Oath of members.**

I do solemnly swear (or affirm as the case may be) that I will support the **Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Oregon**, and that I will

faithfully discharge the duties of Senator (or Representative as the case may be) according to the best of my Ability.

Respectfully,

*Craig McDermott
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