

Rodger Seid
16610 SW Peninsula Ct.
Beaverton, OR 97006

Senator Floyd Prozanski
Senator Jeff Kruse

Senator Betsy Close
Senator Arnie Roblan

Senator Michael Dembrow

SUBJ: SB 1551

The Honorable Chair Prozanski,

My name is Rodger Seid. I am a citizen of the great state of Oregon and am deeply concerned about Senate Bill 1551. While I applaud your efforts to protect our fellow citizens, the cost is too high for too small a gain. I would like to tell you the tale of my family and why we know this to be true.

My family are immigrants from China. My father grew up under Japanese occupation in WWII. My father worked for \$0.10/hr in Portland scrubbing pots and found it infinitely preferable. I am a reserve Marine having served 24 years with 2 tours in Iraq. I know what having freedom is and what losing it looks like.

Since the inception of the Brady Act, only 1.8% were denied, not including the thousands that were successfully appealed. How many lives did that save? According to the August 2000 Journal of the American Medical Association, the Brady law has failed to reduce murder rates. If not to keep the people safe, then why perform a background check?

The 2nd Amendment is key because it protects our ability to defend our freedom. Our ability to assemble, freedom of speech, protection against unreasonable search and seizure, right of due process, the right to a speedy and public trial...all of these are imperiled without the people having the power to grant and withdraw consent to the government.

Compromising our freedom is unacceptable for a 'feel good' and begins a slippery slope where we can be regulated into slavery. If we as Americans give into fear, we will have ceased to be the beacon of hope to the world and become the very thing terrorists want.

To reiterate, background checks have been proven to be useless and is a waste of resources. This additional waste will be negatively received in light of Oregon's other controversial fiscal issues such as Cover Oregon, PERS and the Columbia River Crossing.

If the goal is to truly prevent violence, let us instead care for our fellow citizens who have been broken by life and help them heal.

Semper Fidelis,



Rodger Seid