

I am writing in support of HB 2543 because I want to be sure anyone buying a firearm has to successfully pass the background check! If passed into law, this bill would make Oregon safer for everyone no matter our age or zip code. This bill makes a great deal of sense and should be passed out of committee with a DO PASS recommendation.

Currently, gun dealers can release a gun to the buyer if the background check has not been completed in 3 days. They don't have to wait until the buyer is fully cleared by the criminal background check. This results in people who should NOT have guns getting a free pass. This just does not make sense.

When the background check was completed within the 3 day period in 2020, 90% of denials were because the purchaser was a felon or otherwise prohibited person. If these checks had taken longer, all those prohibited people would have guns, ready to use to kill, terrorize, and cripple. At least 19 states and Washington DC have laws that allow more than the current 3 days. Oregon is behind the curve in preventing weapons from being sold to those who are most likely to use them for deadly purposes.

The time is now to pass HB2543. Please vote to keep Oregonians safe from gun violence.