

Mike and Shannon Shahan
PO Box 1437
La Pine, Oregon 97739

February 12, 2021

Oregon State Legislature
House of Representatives
Salem, Oregon 97301
Sent Via Electronic Mail

Dear House Representatives:

We are writing to you in regards to House Bill 2543, the bill that would eliminate the ability for a gun dealer or private party to transfer a firearm if the Department of State Police is unable to determine whether recipient is qualified to receive firearm.

We strongly oppose this change to the current firearms laws, but feel like this needs some further explanation as to why.

Mike currently manages a small sporting goods store in our home town of La Pine. They, like most gun stores, have a strict "no go" policy when it comes to releasing firearms without approval from the state. Unfortunately our current system can have people in a que for upwards of six weeks. This is problematic and can put people at risk.

When we say problematic, we mean the hunter heading out on a trip without his rifle. We mean the competitive shooter without their needed addition for their competition. We mean the firearms instructor that doesn't have enough firearms for their students.

When we say at risk, we mean the person who needs to protect themselves from an abusive partner. We mean the family living in a high crime area that needs to protect themselves. We mean the elderly person living alone.

Until the current system is fixed changing this current language is only going to force people into the black market for firearms, leaving no trail to follow. At least currently the information is logged and tracked and kept.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mike & Shannon Shahan

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