

I am in favor of passing HB2543, commonly known as Charleston Loophole Bill. This specific loophole permits firearms from ending up in the possession of dangerous criminals as well as domestic abusers. Currently in Oregon, gun sellers have the discretion to hand over a purchased gun after only three business days if the background check is still pending. As a result of COVID-19 in 2020, many background checks were incomplete after three days, and purchasers who would likely fail the background check ended up getting a gun even though they would eventually be legally prohibited from buying one. When law enforcement lacks time to complete in-depth background checks, these deadly weapons can end up in the hands of felons, abusers, and even suicidal people are putting themselves at risk. Similarly, this loophole gives no time for the government to deny these criminals and at-risk people access to firearms. I encourage you to pass HB2543 to ensure that only people who have successfully passed a background check can purchase a firearm.