The Honorable Senator Plozanski
Dear Senator, Plozanski:
My Name is Ray Lackey
I come before you in opposition to Senate Bill 554.
As a former firearms dealer, serving the police departments of Central and Eastern Oregon, having worked directly with Senator Burdick on the bill to require background checks at gun shows—Senator Burdick told me personally my (as a firearms store dealer) support for that Bill, in Deschutes County, was the key factor in obtaining voter support for the background check legislation in Deschutes County.
I supported the—and later adopted—additional background check legislation, again, because I knew the issue and ways the loopholes in the gun show legislation were being sabotaged. I.e., inside knowledge and logic could be supported.
As an FFL dealer, then, I knew of the real issue and was helpful to Senator Burdick. I did that because of first hand knowledge about the abuses. It was logical, statistically, and antidotally, verifiable.
I was also involved in the firearms issue when House Speaker Vera Katz was instrumental in adopting the (effectively original) Concealed Carry Legislation in Oregon in 1996.
I cite the thesis by Richard Meek Bash, 1996, that illustrates the statistical data regarding concealed carry vs crime-related rates, etc.
The back issue, as formulated in Senate Bill 554 is not logical, or sensible because it does not address a matter related to the actual carrying of concealed weapons, nor does it respect the given right of the concealed carry holder, the very intention of current Law.
Unlike the two subjects cited above, Senate Bill 554 has the effect of nullifying Oregon's Concealed Carry Law.
Based on the historical record; the known statistics, er al, Bill 554 causes chaos for responsible—investigated and law-abiding individuals. Bill 554 is arbitrary and creates an illogical basis whereby an individual right can be turned into a crime without cause, based on disorientation, etc.
Please do not allow Senate Bill 554 to pass.
Thank you,
Ray Lackey