

Secretary: Vote explanation please. Senator Boquist

“HB 2936 setting standards for police background checks would have been a good start but contains two concepts which resulted in a no vote. First, regulating speech on social media such as Facebook by an employer or prospective employers is prohibited elsewhere in Oregon law and is unconstitutional. Second, if Oregon wants to develop a statutory framework for identifying criminal groups that needs to be done without violating the Tenth Amendment. Worse is the notion in legislative debate to utilize the ACLU, Southern Poverty Law Center and FBI to determine whom should be banned from law enforcement. The ACLU (American Civil Liberties Union) has a long history of supporting the KKK and confederal battle flag along with other subversive groups. A former board member lamented recently that the ACLU no longer supports civil rights. The Southern Poverty Law Center political organization is considered by a large segment of the population to be anti-religious, leftist, bias, and its track record since 1971 is not a reliable bases to judge law enforcement. SPLC lists the American College of Pediatricians, Pacific Justice Institute, American Family Council, and other law firms and churches as part of its 1000 plus organizations it considers hate groups. The SPLC has recently faced its own employee claims of sexual harassment, gender discrimination and racism within the organization along with being forced to settle multi-million-dollar lawsuits over false hate group designations. The FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation) track record at Ruby Ridge, Waco, Fast & Furious, Malheur Refuge, recent internal investigations, and its own insurrection actions over the past two years eliminate it as a judge of character as well. If Oregon wants to screen applicants it needs to develop its own process without the ACLU, SPLC or FBI.”