

**State Senator Kim Thatcher
Senate District 13**



News Release
April 6, 2015
Contact: William Newell
(503) 986-1713

Amendment to Improve Senate Bill 941 Rejected By Senate Democrats

Salem, OR - Today, the Senate Judiciary Committee heard an amendment proposed by Senator Thatcher that would have dramatically improved SB 941. It would have removed the universal background check system and enhanced existing law.

More specifically, the amendment would have made individuals who transfer a gun to a prohibited person criminally liable whether the transferor knew the recipient was prohibited or not. This would act as incentive for individuals to perform due diligence when selling a weapon without mandating background checks for all private gun transfers.

"Mandating background checks on private gun sales will do little in the way of preventing gun violence and stopping criminals from obtaining a gun," said Senator Thatcher. "My amendment would have been a great compromise which would have encouraged more due diligence in private gun sales while also protecting law-abiding Oregon gun owners."

Committee chair Prozanski along with Senator Gelser and Senator Burdick voted to pass SB 941 out of committee on a party line vote. The bill must still be heard in the House before being sent to Governor Brown.

####