



Oregon Public Health Association

Working together to make health happen

OPHA Action Alert:
Support Life-Saving Gun Background Checks

As a member of the [Oregon Alliance for Gun Safety](#), OPHA would like to ask that you show your support this legislative session for gun background checks. Please email your legislators to ask them to pass this life-saving piece of legislation. Our supporters in Salem need to hear from the majority of Oregonians—87 percent—who support background checks. **Please [send an email now](#) and ask your friends to send an email too.**

Oregon families have lost too many loved ones to gun violence. Background checks uphold the Second Amendment while preventing guns from getting into dangerous hands—those of felons and domestic abusers.

Background checks prevent gun sales to felons, domestic abusers, the dangerously mentally ill, and other prohibited persons. But private sellers—who can sell up to 25 firearms at a time—are exempt from Oregon and federal law, creating the “private sales loophole.” Felons and domestic abusers can easily purchase guns privately, skirting the background check system.

The vast majority—87 percent—of Oregon voters support background checks, including those who own guns (83 percent).

Background Checks are Quick and Effective at Saving Lives

In Oregon, background checks cost only \$10 and are usually completed in less than five minutes over the phone by the Oregon State Police. In states that require a background check on the sale of every firearm:

- 48 percent fewer on-duty police officers are shot and killed,
- 46 percent fewer women are shot and killed by their intimate partners, and
- 48 percent fewer people commit suicide with guns.

Send an email to your State Senator and State Representative

Tell them it's time for action on gun violence in Oregon. Our supporters in Salem regularly tell us that supporters of common-sense gun safety laws are out-called and out-emailed by 10-to-1 or more by gun rights advocates! It's time to speak up and make our voices heard – [Click here](#) to send an email now, and share with friends on Facebook [here](#).

[Click here](#) learn more about our policy committee and advocacy through OPHA.

Oregon Public Health Association

818 SW 3rd Ave. #1201
Portland OR 97204
503-719-5600

www.oregonpublichealth.org

[Click here](#) to learn more about OPHA membership and join today!

Like us on [Facebook](#) and follow @ORPublicHealth [twitter](#)