

Opinion / Politics

Governor suggests new gun control plan

Governor Kate Brown announced Friday “Oregonians United to End Gun Violence,” a plan to address gun safety in Oregon and across the country. Governor Brown was joined by Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici, Multnomah County District Attorney Rod Underhill, faith leaders, advocates for gun safety, and more than 30 other community leaders from across Oregon to call for an end to gun violence.

“Since I was sworn in as Governor 17 months ago, more than 600 Oregonians have died from violence inflicted by a gun,” Governor Brown said. “Violence answers nothing, offers nothing, solves nothing. If we want to end violence, we must instill hope and create opportunity. I call on each of us, as Oregonians and as Americans, to join this call to end gun violence now.”

Brown will take immediate action through executive order to strengthen existing Oregon law, giving Oregon State Police and local authorities more tools to track and analyze gun transactions.

These tools can be used in the prosecution of illegal firearms sales and help to keep guns from falling into the wrong hands.

Additionally, Brown’s executive order establishes a new work group to review and assess firearms-related domestic violence.

The work group will

make recommendations for a statewide policy that enhances the safety of domestic violence survivors. The executive order also directs the Oregon Health Authority to report annually on gun violence and its effect on public health, and when warranted, recommend policies to increase gun safety in Oregon. Brown also committed to working with the Oregon Legislature during the 2017 session to pass critical gun safety measures.

The following three legislative priorities were outlined by Brown:

Close the “Charleston Loophole.” In Oregon, if the state police are unable to determine a person’s eligibility to purchase a firearm within three days, current law requires approval of the sale of the firearm. Governor Brown will prepare legislation that will make sure individuals who should not own a gun are not able to obtain one simply because authorities were unable to complete the background check within current timelines.

Close the “Boyfriend Loophole.” By expanding the types of relationships that qualify under “domestic violence” charges, those convicted of certain crimes of domestic violence and stalking will no longer have access to firearms. Ban extended-capacity magazines. Outlaw the future purchases of extended-capacity maga-

zines in Oregon. This type of ammunition enables individuals to fire repeatedly without the need to reload and increases a shooter’s ability to injure and kill large numbers of people.

With support from Senator Wyden and Congresswoman Bonamici, Governor Brown also called on Congress to act now to pass national firearms safety legislation in a letter to Oregon’s congressional delegation.

“Every day in the United States, 22 people die from homicidal gun violence,” Governor Brown said.

“I urge Congress to ban assault weapons and strengthen anti-terrorist legislation by passing the common sense ‘No Fly, No Buy’ ban.”

Supporters of Governor Brown’s “Oregonians United to End Gun Violence” plan include representatives from the following organizations:

Everytown for Gun Safety
Gun Owners for Responsible Ownership
Americans for Responsible Solutions
Ceasefire Oregon
Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence
Volunteers of America Oregon
Oregon Health & Science University
Basic Rights Oregon
Q Center

Ferrioli responds to gun control proposal

Salem, Ore.—Senate Republican Leader Ted Ferrioli (R-John Day) released the following statement following Governor Kate Brown’s announcement Friday of her gun control plan that includes requiring Oregon State Police to retain firearms transaction data for five years:

“Kate Brown’s reckless attempt to politicize gun control while tension is significantly heightened across the country may propel us into a debate on

the confiscation of private property and criminalization of law-abiding citizens and cause the kind of provocation almost guaranteed to produce more violence and anger.

“Instead of attacking the freedom and rights of law-abiding citizens through gun registries and bans, we should unite to address the real problem of inadequate mental health funding that leaves struggling individuals without the help they desperately need.

“The Governor will not mention that many mass shootings in Oregon have been by people who cannot legally own or possess a firearm, but obtained access to firearms illegally, including by theft. Treating the cause of the problems leading to hostility, including inadequate mental health care, is the only way to reduce incidents of random gun violence in Oregon and throughout the nation.”

OFF also responds to gun control proposal

Submitted by the Oregon Firearms Federation

One day after a truck was used to murder over 80 people in France, Kate Brown and other liberal hacks held an anti-gun press conference that had more cops than reporters.

As always, surrounded by armed guards, Governor Brown called for a ban on standard capacity magazines, an end to the safeguard that allows Oregonians to transfer firearms when the Oregon State Police don’t do their jobs and an expansion of attacks on people who are accused of domestic violence but never actually charged or convicted of anything.

Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici lied and said it was legal to go to another state and buy a gun with no background check, and demanded that Congress disallow persons on the “no fly” list from buying guns. In a moment of irony no rights hater could ever grasp, Bonamici quoted Congressman John Lewis, who was of course, on the “no fly” list.

Governor Brown said: “Since I was sworn in as Governor 17 months ago, more than 600 Oregonians

have died from violence inflicted by a gun.”

But no one noted that the vast majority of deaths by gunfire are suicides. That does not fit the politically correct narrative.

Brown also called on Congress to ban modern firearms.

“Every day in the United States, 22 people die from homicidal gun violence,” Governor Brown said. “I urge Congress to ban assault weapons and strengthen anti-terrorist legislation by passing the common sense ‘No Fly, No Buy’ ban.”

Members of the so called “faith community” announced their intention to ban modern firearms and magazines via ballot measure, called gun owners “the enemy,” and said God was on their side.

In calling for the magazine ban Brown, amazingly, said:

“When a man intent on killing as many people as he could entered the Pulse Nightclub in Orlando, he did so with extended capacity magazines. Those magazines allowed him to fire his weapon repeatedly without stopping to reload, without any pause that might have given his victims or law enforcement

a chance to stop him.”

The sheer lunacy of her remarks is staggering. The Orlando killer was in the nightclub for three hours before police took action. Does Brown actually believe he was shooting for three hours without reloading? The reason so many people died was because they were not prepared and not allowed by law to defend themselves.

Brown also said: “Additionally, I am directing Oregon State Police to proactively notify local law enforcement if a person prohibited by law from buying a gun tries to buy one.”

You mean they don’t do that now? The fact is, an OSP trooper is dispatched every time there is a gun transfer denial and when they find a prohibited person attempting a transfer, they do ... nothing.

Of course, not a word was mentioned of the real cause of most mass shootings. Radical Islam. 2017 is going to be the rockiest year yet for gun rights. In spite of the real dangers facing Americans every day, Brown and her cohorts will be doing all they can to strip you of your rights.

— SPECIAL COLUMN —

So I was thinking ...

Wasting time

By Jimmy Ingram
Special to The Baker County Press



Submitted Photo

Jimmy Ingram is a local farmer and father of two who enjoys people watching within our wonderful community and beyond.

Wasted time is part of life. After all, we can’t be productive all the time. But sometimes we find ourselves spending time doing things that afterward seem completely ridiculous. The “under the radar” time wasters are the ones that really get us...

5-cent deposits: The other day I took a couple small bags of aluminum cans to the recycling machines at Safeway, something I rarely do. I patiently waited my turn line for 10 minutes to experience the mind numbing act of force-feeding one sticky, not-quite-empty can at a time into a machine that seemed to have a mind of its own. After several minutes listening to the crunching of aluminum cans and experiencing emotions of anger and denial that some had been unfairly rejected, my mission was finally complete. I collected my ticket just in time to catch a few impatient looks from the people in line behind me with shopping carts full of cans (God help them). It just so happened that on this day I made the mistake of glancing at my watch before and after my quest for the return of my 5-cent deposit. A time investment of 25 minutes had left me with \$2.90. I now stood annoyed and sticky handed, wondering what I should do with the 15 rejected cans I still had left. I also wondered if I could have dug \$2.90 out of my couch cushions in lesser time. I realize recycling is good for the environment, but I think next time I’ll save that 25 minutes and donate my cans to a kid looking for candy money. Or maybe leave them in my driveway with a sign reading “free nickels.”

Television: I spend little time watching anything but sports on TV, but every once in a while the sports world hits a lull and I’m forced to discover what else is on TV... and it’s horrifying. Staged reality shows, judged singing and dancing competitions, CSI Klamath Falls (not really, but I’m sure it’s coming), the list goes on. I’m sure there are some shows worth watching but they seem to be few and far between. The truth is, rarely do I turn off the TV having learned anything, laughed out loud, or been thoroughly entertained. And yet at 9 p.m. on a Tuesday what do I say to myself? “I wonder if there’s anything good on TV.”

Waiting on hold: few things are a more annoying time waster than waiting on hold. “Please stay on the line and one of our customer service representatives will be with you shortly.” While we’d like to believe it’s true, we know it’s probably not. In an attempt to keep us calm, we are subjected to 30 second intervals of smooth jazz periodically interrupted with a reassuring female voice letting us know that help is on the way. Five minutes go by, then 10, 15. Hanging up now is not an

— CONTACT US —

The Baker County Press

PO Box 567
Baker City, Ore. 97814

Open Monday-Thursday for calls
9 AM - 4 PM
Open 24/7 for emails

Phone: 541.519.0572

TheBakerCountyPress.com

Kerry McQuisten, Publisher
Editor@TheBakerCountyPress.com

Wendee Morrissey, Advertising and Sales
Wendee@TheBakerCountyPress.com

David Conn, Advertising and Sales
David@TheBakerCountyPress.com

Published weekly every Friday.
Subscription rates per year are \$29.95 all areas, e-mail delivery. \$39.95 print issue, home delivery, Baker City city limits only. \$49.95 print issue, mail delivery, outside Baker City city limits only. Payment in advance.

A division of
Black Lyon Publishing, LLC

Copyright © 2014 -2016

YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

President Barack Obama

202.456.1414

202.456.2461 fax

Whitehouse.gov/contact

US Sen. Jeff Merkley

503.326.3386

503.326.2900 fax

Merkley.Senate.gov

US Sen. Ron Wyden

541.962.7691

Wyden.Senate.gov

US Rep. Greg Walden

541.624.2400

541.624.2402 fax

Walden.House.gov

Oregon Gov. Kate Brown

503.378.3111

Governor.Oregon.gov

State Rep. Cliff Bentz

503.986.1460

State Sen. Ted Ferrioli

541.490.6528

Baker County

Commissioners Bill Harvey;

Mark Bennett; Tim Kerns

541.523.8200

541.523.8201