

Vote **NO** on Initiative 594

Initiative 594 would **NOT PREVENT CRIMINALS FROM OBTAINING FIREARMS**. It would create a **HUGE REGULATORY SCHEME** that would disproportionately burden law-abiding firearm sellers and purchasers. It would cause an **EXPENSIVE DIVERSION OF SCARCE LAW ENFORCEMENT RESOURCES**. It would be **UNENFORCEABLE**. Further, it would create a **MASSIVE GOVERNMENT DATABASE** of law-abiding handgun owners.

INITIATIVE 594:

Would Not Improve Mental Health Background Checks

Nothing proposed in I-594 does anything to improve America's failing mental health system, mental health reporting nor mental health background checks on prospective firearm purchasers.

Would Not Stop Dangerously Unstable People

Nothing proposed in I-594 would have prevented any of the recent mass killings. Not one of the notorious perpetrators of the recent rash of mass killings would have been stopped by the provisions of I-594. Virtually every one of them bought their firearms through dealers after being subjected to background checks. The rest stole their firearms.

Would Not Stop Criminals

Criminals will violate I-594 like they break other laws. Criminals will still acquire firearms where they do now: the black market, straw purchasers, theft and illicit sources like drug dealers. You can't change criminal behavior by criminalizing lawful behavior.

Creates Over-burdensome Regulatory Excess

I-594 restricts ALL "transfers" of firearms (NOT just sales). The definition of "transfer" is so broad and the exceptions are so narrowly drafted that virtually every time the mere possession of a firearm changes hands, the exchange is subject to the bureaucracy imposed by I-594, including paperwork, fees, doubled waiting periods, taxes and government registration in the case of handguns! Even concealed pistol license (CPL) holders, who have undergone a fingerprint-based background check, are not exempt from the provisions of I-594!

Opposed by Rank & File Law Enforcement

Initiative 594 is an *unfunded mandate* that diverts scarce law enforcement resources away from keeping violent criminals off our streets *making us all less safe*. Do you want sex offenders released from crowded prisons to make room for people convicted of family-firearm transfer violations?

Criminalizes Loans Between Family Members & Friends

I-594 is 18 pages of costly and confusing regulatory excess and is punitive to lawful firearms owners. Proponents want you to "pass it so you can find out what's in it." Before you vote, *consult your attorney* to see how it criminalizes your behavior. Want to lend your sister-in-law a gun to protect herself? Want to loan your adult sons shotguns to go hunting? I-594 *makes you a*

criminal! A police officer who loans a personal firearm to a fellow officer would face criminal prosecution.

Imposes Significant Costs on Secondhand Firearm Transfers

In addition to the fees imposed by dealers to broker virtually all secondhand firearm transfers, all private transfers are subject to use tax, payable to the State Department of Revenue. The records created by these dealer transfers will give the government the necessary tool to single out and collect more tax from law-abiding firearm owners!

Expands the Massive Government Database of Law-Abiding Handgun Owners

Virtually every time the possession of a handgun changes hands, even temporarily, the transfer is subject to the burdensome provisions of I-594 including entry into the state government registration database of law-abiding handgun owners currently maintained by the Washington State Department of Licensing.

Severely Restricts Unsupervised Youth Hunting

I-594 would prohibit a parent from allowing any youth under the age of 18 from using the family firearm for hunting or shooting unless the person was directly supervised. Further, the lack of a definition for “directly supervised” raises questions about the use of team hunting strategies by a father and son.

Unenforceable

It would be impossibly expensive to attempt to enforce the provisions of I-594. Law enforcement officials would be spending their entire budgets going after law-abiding firearm owners. Empirical evidence indicates that the current law requiring background checks on retail sales of firearms is virtually never enforced. Instead of advocating for enforcement of the existing law, the gun ban lobby is pushing I-594 to build a massive government database of law-abiding handgun owners!

Ignores the Common Threads of Recent Mass Shootings

- Mental illness/Dangerous instability
 - Psychiatric medications
 - Background checks conducted on the perpetrators
 - Gun-free zones
- ...None of which would be addressed by I-594!

Dishonesty!

Virtually every talking point and argument put forth by the proponents of I-594 is either grossly misleading or an outright lie. Lies = Hidden agenda! Intentional Deception is NOT Without Motive! When people lie to you, they are trying to get you to believe something or do something you would not otherwise do if you knew the truth. Go to www.nrawebsite.com/dishonesty to find a catalog of the lies and half-truths of the 594 backers.

I-594 is NOT about “Universal Background Checks” because criminals would ignore!

I-594 is REALLY “Universal Handgun Registration” because ALL law-abiding handgun owners would be registered!