

Richard Shapiro  
Brunswick

My name is Richard Shapiro, and I am from Brunswick.

Please vote 'ought not to pass' on LD 1454.

The provision seeks to keep private citizens from creating their own firearms, as they have legally been able to do since the founding of this country, and it does it out of fear that guns will be created that can't be detected.

The fear is utterly unfounded. Ammunition is metallic. Metal detectors pick up primers, casings, firing pins and bullets. Period.

Nobody except the TSA relies on looking at the 'outline' of a gun - modern security uses metal detectors.

And, even worse, the legislation is incredibly over-broad. In a single swath, it destroys home-gunmaking. Law-abiding citizens don't make guns that are used in criminal activity. And, criminals don't give a darn about such laws.

Furthermore, in seeking to do the above, it destroys the definition of what is or isn't a gun part - the definition used by the federal government exists for a reason. It's the practical limit of the definition. This legislation would literally expand the definition to include a substantial portion of the materials in the average hardware store. A pistol or a shotgun can be made from a couple of pipes and a nail, for goodness sake.

So, this law 1) is based on ignorance of how guns work; 2) does no good; and 3) infringes on the constitutional rights of law abiding citizens.