

## **Book Club questions for *Fatal Legislation*.**

1. How did you find the *Fatal Legislation* experience? Did the book engage you immediately, or did it take a while to "get into it?"
2. Discuss the dynamics between characters? Mike and Karina. Karina and Rodrigo. Karina and the Silverthorne Security guys. Why do you think the characters do what they do? Do you feel their actions were justified? Did any of the characters remind you of people you know? Which character did you like the most? Least?
3. The book opens with the collapse of Senator Harper; Karina tries to save him. Have you ever been put in the position of trying to save someone's life? What was it like? If you are not a first responder or medical practitioner, would you know what to do if someone went into cardiac arrest? Do you spring into action in emergencies, or do you freeze up?
4. Sometimes the characters make bad decisions. Discuss some of those. Have you ever made a snap decision that you've regretted? They say hind sight is 20/20, have you ever looked back at a decision you thought was good at the time, but went bad, and pinpointed where you could have changed the course of events? Do you dwell on your mistakes, or do you simply chalk it up to a lesson learned and move forward?
5. Hacking plays a major role in the plot line. There have been thousands of recalls on pacemakers due to this exact issue. Were you aware of this issue? Would it make you think twice about putting medical devices inside your body that had software that could be hacked? Do you ever get concerned by the vulnerabilities our society has opened itself up to by becoming so reliant on technology?
6. The author makes the pharmaceutical industry the "bad guys" in the novel. While pharmaceuticals play a major role in our society today and can save lives, it has also created a dependence upon them (e.g. the opioid crisis). Society has been taught to ask for a pill to fix a medical problem. Is this the way we should be going? Are there other avenues we should explore before asking a doctor for a pill? Have you ever used a different approach to fix one of your own medical problems, such as change in diet, exercise, acupuncture, job change or relocation, rather than relying on pharmaceuticals?
7. Rumors abound and leaked reports from the pharmaceutical industry have stated there is a lot less money in curing people than in long-term management of disease. Do you believe the pharmaceutical companies are looking out for the best interest of American consumers?
8. Was there a snippet of dialog that you found funny or poignant or that captures a particular character's essence? What made you frustrated, roll your eyes, or laugh?
9. If you could ask the author a question about the characters, plot, theme, etc., what would it be?