

Dear Senate Judiciary Committee,

I write today as an Oregonian and a mom in support of SB 978-1, which includes many powerful, common sense measures to reduce the terrible impact of gun violence in the communities of our state. My child has just as much of a right to grow up to adulthood as any adult has to own a killing machine. I support all of the bill, and in particular prioritize the following:

Safe storage of firearms is the bare minimum owners should be required to do under the law in order to for "well regulated" to have any meaning. SB 978 provides a mechanism for civil fines if you don't safely store your gun and it's used to injure someone else. You also must report it if it's stolen, otherwise you're liable. I fully support those measures. They are simply common sense and encourage personal responsibility.

Guns have no place in my kindergartner's school. Teachers and others who have brought guns onto school campuses have injured several children in the last few years. One of the most important and beneficial provisions in this bill is the ability of public schools to ban handguns on their premises.

Likewise, states ought to be able to restrict ownership of any highly lethal machines to people whose brains are not fully formed & whose executive function is less than fully intact. Human brains are not fully formed until the age of 25. This measure gives gun retailers the freedom to choose not to sell guns to people under 21.

One of the responsibilities of owning a highly lethal machine should be to monitor its location and report its theft or loss promptly. This will help our law enforcement officers crack down on gun trafficking. Likewise, firearms that are undetectable, untraceable, or downloaded, should be absolutely banned in this state to reduce black market gun trafficking and the dangers to the public safety of such trade.

Guns are lethal devices. I fully support increasing the fees for concealed handgun licenses.

Thank you for your time,
Erin Conroy

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