



hjud.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

February 3, 2020

Re: HB 4005

To: House Committee on Judiciary

Baker County strongly objects to House Bill 4005. It is a direct assault on American's Second Amendment Rights and criminalizes law-abiding gun-owners.

Bill Harvey

Commission Chair

bharvey@bakercounty.org

The Second Amendment of the US Constitution clearly states, "A well-regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed." The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines the term "bear arms" as "to carry or possess arms". HB 4005, blatantly runs afoul of the Second Amendment as it limits (infringes) on a person's ability to ensure security for themselves and others by requiring firearms to remain locked up making them useless.

The exemption of a locked house or vehicle not being considered as an adequate "locked container" is just unacceptable. A locked house or vehicle is the first line of defense against intruders. The passage of this bill will do absolutely nothing to reduce criminal actions, but it will make it easier for criminals to break into homes because they know they are essentially entering a "gun-free zone".

This bill creates the criminalization of the victim of a burglary for an arbitrary number of years after the victimization occurred.

The County acknowledges that there are gun-related suicides. However, it also needs to be acknowledged by legislators that a person, intent on ending their life, will resort to any means. This bill will not eliminate suicide, but rather increase homicides against those that cannot defend themselves in their own homes and vehicles.

Gun ownership is a right. With it comes the personal and parental responsibility to teach children not to handle firearms. Millions of law-abiding families for generations have instilled firearm respect with their children. Millions more will do so without this reckless bill.

Send HB 4005 to the voters. By running it through the legislative process in such a haphazard manner demonstrates that the promoters of this bill do not think it will pass with votes in November.

Sincerely,

Bill Harvey, Chair
Baker County Commission