

To whom it may concern,

My name is Thomas Brooks, and I am writing in support of HB 4005. I believe that more laws on safe gun storage will be the key to lowering rates of suicide, along with rates of death from firearms as a whole.

The facts and statistics make themselves obvious that this has a great chance of working. 2/3 of gun deaths in the US are suicides, and Oregon itself has a suicide rate that's 20% higher than the rest of the nation. I fully believe that creating laws to encourage firearm owners to store their guns safely will help to lower these statistics. Guns that are not safely stored cause deaths, both accidental and from suicide. There are several cities that have laws similar to this proposed one, along with the state of Massachusetts, which has a suicide rate that is 35% lower than the national average. With suicide from firearm being one of the most deadly forms of attempted suicide, it seems obvious that laws to help keep ownership of firearms safe would do nothing but help to lower these statistics.

I am hopeful that this bill passes, as I am in full and complete support, and I truly believe that it will help to lower the rates of suicide in this state.

Sincerely,
Thomas Brooks