

I don't believe that this bill would do anything to improve safety in Oregon, suspect that it will (as most gun control does) have deleterious effects on low-income and minority communities, and probably is unconstitutional.

I live in an apartment with my wife and no children. My firearms are in a closet, minding their own business. For someone to steal them, that person would have to break in to my apartment. No lock I'm likely to buy for my firearms will be more burglar-resistant than the dead bolt on my front door, and the bicycle locks and plastic "trigger locks" currently on the market are laughably easy to defeat. If I had children in the house, of course my firearms would be secured--but I don't have kids, and so they aren't, and I should not be required to lock them.

Moreover, I shouldn't be liable or responsible for the actions of thieves who steal my property. Again, everything I own is locked up in my apartment. A person who stole a firearm of mine would have to break a window, pick a lock, bash in a door in order to take that firearm. Why should the presence or absence of a bicycle lock through the trigger guard of my rifle make me more or less liable for the actions of that thief? It makes no sense.

And the people most likely to be impacted by this law are gun owners less wealthy and less informed than I am. They don't follow the news. Maybe they aren't passionate about firearm hobbies or sports; they own one old shotgun inherited from grandpa. When this law passes with no fanfare, and that shotgun gets stolen, they'll be liable--and those liable persons will overwhelmingly be the low-income, politically-disengaged that Democrats in Oregon say they want to protect.

Lastly, *DC v. Heller* has already shown a very similar gun-lockup law to be unconstitutional. I think it is extremely likely that if Oregon passes this law, we'll wind up spending tax dollars to defend it in court--a price I'd be willing to pay if this law was going to save lives, but it won't. All this law will do is frustrate people like me, get poor folks arrested, and cost Oregon taxpayers.

Please vote "no" on HB 4005.

-Arthur Chaput
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