

COMMENTS ABOUT HB 4005

The Safe Storage Gun Bill (HB 4005) is so flawed that it is an embarrassment to Oregon's political system to see it being proposed once again. I suspect that out-of-state money and special interest groups or individuals are behind this re-appearance.

The safe storage requirements are extremely flawed in that they propose solutions to problems that don't exist, and, if passed, would create much worse actual problems. Here are some points of interest:

. A highly-recognized author (John Lott Jr.) who writes about gun safety issues . in a 2016 book . states that "One might think that they (gun locks) are an obvious solution to accidental deaths involving children. But we are dealing with relatively small numbers here - in 2014 fifty children under fifteen (across the US) died from accidental gun shots. In most of these cases, the child was not playing with the weapon, but was accidentally shot by an adult male."

. Accidental deaths involving children are much more common in bath tub drownings, swimming pool drownings, auto accidents and other common activities. Why not regulate all of these activities instead?

. Safe storage requirements absolutely negate the value of a firearm for personal protection. Time is rarely available to locate keys and remove locks or open safes when an immediate threat arises. The value of having a firearm for personal protection would vanish if a gun owner carefully follows the proposed safe storage rules.

. Safe storage laws will create thousands of criminals. Here in Oregon we could easily have up to one million firearm owners and I am confident that at least 75% of them would ignore any safe storage requirements thereby rendering these gun owners to be in criminal violation of the storage rules. Is this what law makers want to create in solving a problem that doesn't exist?

This proposed bill is an absolute political joke and waste of time for both the legislators and firearm owners.

Respectfully,

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