

Mandatory firearm storage requirements are unnecessary and an overreach of gov't power. Safe firearm storage within the home and when transferring to a buyer are an individual responsibility. Proponents of this bill have failed to show if and how failure to safely store firearms within Oregon have directly contributed to anything but a negligible number of accidental gun deaths.

In truth, accidental firearm deaths are at an all time low since the 1930's. While the number of privately owned firearms has quadrupled since 1930, the annual number of fatal firearm accidents has declined by 62%. Firearms are involved in 1.5% of accidental fatalities nationwide, far behind the deaths due to motor vehicle accident (47%), falling (15%), poisoning (10%), drowning (4%), fire (3%), suffocation on an ingested object (3%) and other causes. (National Safety Council, National Center for Health Statistics)

As an owner of multiple firearms, those which are used for hunting or target practice should be stored unlocked. However firearms regularly kept for self-defense should be kept at the ready, not encumbered by locks or secure containers when, in an emergency defense situation, seconds count. Oregon already has law(s) on the books which are utilized should an adult gun owner be found to be negligent in how their firearms are stored. Education works. It benefits everyone. Punishment fails. It only serves to hamstring law abiding gun owners.

Enough with the nanny gov't mentality. Allow responsible owners of firearms to be just that: responsible. Quit the attempts to penalize your constituents who are lawfully exercising their 2nd Amendment rights.

Do not allow this unnecessary and intrusive bill to pass out of committee.