

Thank you for the opportunity to share written testimony in support of HB2510. I am a retired Oregon educator, parent, wife, grandparent, sibling, aunt, and volunteer for Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America. The gun death rate in the United States is tragic and unique--11 times higher than other high income countries. I have grandchildren living in Ireland and they are fearful when they visit the United States because of the high rate of gun violence here. I strongly believe that Responsible Gun Storage can make a difference. HB 2510 requires an owner or possessor of a firearm to secure the firearm with a trigger or cable lock in a locked container or in a gun room except in specified circumstances. The bill also requires that a gun owner must report a lost or stolen gun within 72 hours of when the person discovers it missing. Laws that require secure storage seek to encourage responsible behavior, not punish gun owners. I believe this bill is extremely important in order to prevent children, people with violent criminal histories, and those who are at risk of harming themselves or others from gaining access to a firearm.

I am grateful to support proposed legislative solutions to address this public health crisis by this secure storage bill. I hope you will join me in understanding the importance of keeping our citizens and loved ones safe by supporting HB2510.

Connie Bettencourt
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