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Testimony on HB 2510
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HB 2510 has been sold as a tool to address domestic abuse, violent crime, childhood accidents and suicide.

Accidents involving children and guns, as tragic as they are, are so uncommon that the proponents of this bill were able to name virtually all of them, individually, in the hearing on Tuesday.

The idea that inner city youth will stop gunning down *other* inner city youth because of trigger lock requirement is so absurd I feel no need to address it. The same, of course, is true of the violent rapists referenced by at least one proponent of this bill.

In most cases of domestic abuse, it's safe to say that the abuser will have the keys to her own cable lock, so how this will prevent her from shooting her partner is a mystery.

As far as suicides are concerned, one thing most people agree on is that the single largest demographic for suicide in Oregon is older, white, rural males. It's also a good bet that *those* guys will have the keys to their own gun safes.

One thing that might actually help people considering suicide would be the ability to leave a gun with a trusted friend, but you've already made that so risky few people would consider it.

It is interesting that no one seems to really give a damn *why* older rural men are killing themselves, but they're not a popular demographic so who really cares anyway?

The bill places strict liability on the *victims* of theft, while once again including not *one word* of enhanced penalties for thieves.

If a person who is compelled by *other* proposed legislation to leave a firearm in her car because she *dared* to be near a public building, does so, and her car is stolen, *she* is liable for the murderous actions of the thief, even if she *did* use one of the useless cable locks this bill calls for, because the bill says you have not locked your gun if it's possible to defeat the lock you used.

Portland car thieves are almost never prosecuted. But if they steal a car with a gun in it, you can bet the *car owner will* be, and maybe for a murder she didn't commit. But then, who really needs a gun in peaceful Portland these days.?

While we are at it, why not charge people whose cars were stolen if they weren't locked in a garage? We could tack on extra penalties if they ran on diesel.

This bill has one intention. To punish good people.

Trigger locks and cable locks are dangerous and pointless.

Gun owners in Oregon have been remarkably well behaved, but if you keep rewarding criminals and punishing the law abiding, don't expect them to stay that way.