

Submitter: Alexandra Helling

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3076

I am a doctor and a mother of an infant living in Portland. I have a very real fear of putting my child in school and the out of control gun violence in this country have lead to gut-wrenching considerations of leaving our families for countries that are safer for our baby. Gun violence is the leading cause of death for children in America. Not disease, not even poverty, guns. Guns and those largely unlicensed, inexperienced people who have easy access to these weapons are the leading cause of death for our youth. The school shootings we vowed we would never let happen again are now so commonplace they occur weekly, some barely make a blip. A gun owners right to carry arms is not greater than our rights to live. It's not greater than a child's right to go to school without risk of being murdered.

We don't let people drive without a license and the intent of a drivers license is just for transport. Why would we ever make deadly force easily accessible to either children or adults? The intent of gun ownership is always to harm. Our current laws for gun control are utterly despicable and so many innocent lives have been lost for no good reason.

Children are required to go to school and they are DYING because we have failed to legislate adequate protections on these weapons. This is a matter of life and death and you will have blood on your hands if you make the wrong choices. My children, my neighbors children, your children all need you to support HB 3076.