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PEDIATRIC & YOUNG ADULT ONCOLOG

2884 NW HORIZON DR. BEND OR 97703 541-610-4782

ableyer@gmail.com

April 3, 2025

Oregon House of Representatives re: HB3064

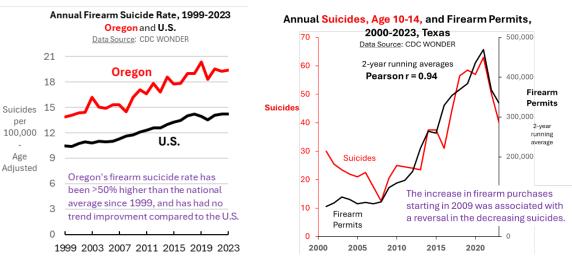
Dear Chair Kropf and the House Judiciary Committee:

As a

- grandfather of a class/teammate here in Bend of 12-year-old who suicided with his parents' firearm,
- a member of a research team that has published on the problem,*
- an Oregonian with prior national and now global responsibilities for children, adolescents and young adults with cancer,
- a participant in the OHSU-PSU OHSU Gun Violence Prevention Research Center
- a reviewer of ERPO development and active proponent of ERPO in Texas as a member the Texas Doctors for Social Responsibility Board of Directors

• and having contacted our county to file an ERPO request on a friend and neighbor I obviously do support HB 3064.

Here are just a couple of reasons based on firearm suicide trends I've generated for all ages in Oregon and the U.S. and age 10-14 in Texas, with the latter also correlated with firearm purchases:



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Werner A. Bleyer, M.D.

Clinical Research Professor Oregon Health and Science University Professor of Pediatrics McGovern Medical School, University of Texas

Collaborator, Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, University of Washington

* Bleyer A. Suicide in Central Oregon A viable reason to reduce firearm availability? The Bulletin March 8, 2014.

Bleyer A, Siegel S, Thomas CR.. Increasing firearm deaths in the youngest Americans: Ecologic correlation with firearm prevalence. MedRxiv BMJ, Yale, Cold Spring Harbor Preprint Server for the Health Sciences,

Bleyer A, Siegel S, Thomas CR. Increasing rate of unintentional firearm deaths in youngest Americans: Firearm prevalence and Covid-19 pandemic implication. J Natl Med Association 1;113(3|Jun):265-77, 2021.

Bleyer A, Siegel SE, Estrada J, Thomas CR. The fallacy of attributing the U.S. firearm mortality crisis to mental health. PLoS One 2024;19(8|Aug 5):e0290138. Online August 5, 2024.