Date: April 4, 2025.

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary

From: Kerry Spurgin, President, Oregon State Shooting Association (OSSA).

Subject: Support for HB3884

I am writing to you today in Support of HB3884. HB3884 is a firearms bill that will save lives.

According to leading researcher Dr. Mike Anestis, "The majority of firearms that will be used in suicides over the next ten years are already in people's homes today." To solve a problem, we need to apply solutions that truly fit the circumstances of the problem.

HB3884 supports Oregonians struggling with personal crisis and mental illness that could very well lead to suicide. When presented with these life issues firearms owners need to be able to establish "time and distance" to keep themselves and their family safe. HB3884 provides for a safe and trusted place to store their firearm, or components of their firearm, away from their home.

This concept is often called 'hold your gun'. This is essentially a place, an FFL, that has lockers for rent where firearms, or parts of firearms, can be stored away from the home thus providing 'Time and Distance'.

<u>What prevents "hold your gun" from happening now?</u> Shop owners and FFLs fear repercussions from misplaced liability if the parts are returned and the firearm owner or others, are harmed. With HB3884 more FFLS will consider this lifesaving service as a part of their business model. On the other side, Oregonians are confused on the current transfer restrictions, even in times of crisis, and also fear their firearms will not be returned.

<u>How does this really work?</u> HB3884 enables a network of simple, secure storage options to save Oregonian lives. Imagine a secure room, at an FFL, filled with gym lockers. People may rent these lockers, place a firearm or critical component (barrel,bolt,...) in the locker, and place a personal lock on the locker. The locker is legally the patrons rented space, with only their access. The FFL does not have access to the firearm or parts and therefore this does not constitute a transfer.

The <u>Oregon State Shooting Association</u> (<u>OSSA</u>), as well as the Oregon Association of Shooting Ranges (OASR) have and continue to drive the ONLY active and effective suicide programs in Oregon; through outstanding collaborations with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP), National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF), Oregon Firearms Safety Coalition (OFSC), and key active members of Oregon Health Authority (OHA). These programs engage Oregonians upstream and provide tools and strategies to stay healthy and safe. We engage key groups to make impacts.

Let's enable HB3884 and Save Oregonian Lives!

Thank you.

Kerry Spurgin President, Oregon State Shooting Association.

