From: Melissa Chureau
To: DeJong Annola
Subject: Written Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 796
Date: Wednesday, April 03, 2013 9:09:39 PM

Dear Chair Prozanski and members of the committee:

My name is Melissa Chureau, and I am a mother and professional from southwest Portland. I am also a member of Moms Demand Action because action for gun sense in Oregon and America is the most important action we can undertake to protect our families and other citizens from senseless or even unintended violence.

I am calling on State legislators to **adopt Bill 796** to require citizens obtaining a concealed handgun license to be trained on how to properly shoot a gun.

As a mother and as a former deputy district attorney, I have seen the damage that can come of gun owners who do not know how to use their guns. It makes little sense to require training to drive a car or even practice in many professions, none of which are designed to be lethal, while there is no training required to use a weapon designed to be lethal. Considering the unacceptably high rate of accidental shootings, and considering that the operation of other equipment, like a car or a motorcycle that isn't designed to be lethal requires training, you really can't consider anything but a YES vote on Bill 796.

While I am a supporter of the Second Amendment, the Second Amendment calls for a "*well-regulated militia*," not one that is ill-trained or equipped to handle the enormous responsibility of using a dangerous or lethal weapon. Simply put, the Second Amendment doesn't trump common sense or public safety. Please **adopt Bill 796** to help ensure concealed gun carriers meet minimal standards of safety and proper use.

Thank you,
Melissa Chureau
Mom. Wife. Lawyer. Member of Moms Demand Action.