

Christy Anderson Brekken
April 5, 2013
Senate Judiciary Committee

Testimony/written submission in support of:

Senate Bill 700: Universal Background Checks - Closes the private sales loophole so criminals and dangerous people can't buy guns.

Senate Bill 347: Gun-Free Schools - Gives school districts the authority to prohibit guns in Oregon public schools, K-12.

Senate Bill 699: Guns in Public Buildings - Assuming the amendments are adopted, requires that people with concealed handgun licenses who are carrying firearms keep them concealed while in public buildings.

Senate Bill 796: Training for Concealed Handgun License - Requires citizens applying for a concealed handgun license to pass a firing range test.

98.3% of ORs

live within

10 miles of

a licensed

gun dealer

1,439 in OR

4x the #

post offices

in US, it's

2x more

gun dealers

than post offices

This letter was written by Christy Anderson Brekken and Sarah Finger McDonald (both of Corvallis) in response to a constituent letter written by our state senator, Betsy Close, stating that placing armed volunteers in schools around the country is a "promising move."

In particular, this letter supports SB 347: Gun-Free Schools. We believe that school districts should have the authority to restrict guns in all Oregon public schools rather than the state dictating that schools must allow all conceal carry license holders to bring guns into schools. Allowing any guns into schools increases the risk of accidental or intentional use of a firearm in a school, which should be the safest place for our children. Only highly trained law enforcement officers should be allowed to carry guns in our schools.

Through in-person conversations, word of mouth and friends forwarding the letter through email, over 300 constituents from Corvallis, Albany and Philomath signed on in support of the letter in a 2-week period. Many people thanked us for speaking out and were hungry to do something on behalf of gun control. As a result, we formed the Mid-Willamette Chapter of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America. Over 100 people turned out to our rally in Corvallis on February 16, 2013. We maintain a local mailing list of over 200 people and continue to take weekly actions on behalf of enacting common sense gun control measures.

In OR

417 gun dealers

394 gun deaths

one of

10 states

gun in car

deaths

Sen. Betsy L. Close, District 8
900 Court Street, NE
Room S-311
Salem, OR 97301

January 24, 2013

Senator Close,

We, citizens of Benton and Linn counties in Oregon Senate District 8, wish you to reconsider your opinion that armed volunteers are a reasonable solution to gun violence in schools. In your letter to Sarah Finger McDonald dated Jan. 16, 2013 you stated that you believe that enlisting volunteer deputies to guard schools is a promising move towards reducing gun violence. We emphatically disagree with your position.

Guns in schools, especially in the hands of volunteers, will not protect our children. In 1981 Ronald Reagan was shot while he was surrounded by highly trained Secret Service and police officers. An armed deputy was on the Columbine High School campus but could not stop the massacre there in 1999. Virginia Tech has its own police force. Their trained officers were unable to prevent the massacre on their campus in 2007. These were armed, trained, law enforcement officers, not unpaid volunteers. Despite their training and experience they could not stop the young men armed with semi-automatic weapons and large capacity clips who carried out these grievous crimes.

In 2011, when Arizona congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords and 18 others were shot, police officers were present but it was an unarmed citizen who tackled the gunman. In fact, an armed citizen nearly shot the Good Samaritan who stopped the shooter. Even highly trained police officers hit bystanders when engaged in a confrontation with a gunman. On August 29, 2012, NYPD officers hit NINE innocent pedestrians when they shot, and hit, a gunman outside the Empire State Building. A study of shootings by the NYPD revealed that even highly trained police officers hit their target only 34% of the time. An armed volunteer in a school would be expected to do far worse in the event of a school shooting, putting children at greater risk.

Adding guns to a population increases the rate of violent death for the whole population. Putting guns in our schools in the hands of unpaid, inexperienced volunteers without law enforcement training will not decrease gun violence, rather it will increase the likelihood that students, teachers and administrators will be victims of violence.

We are mothers, fathers, grandparents, friends and teachers. Our children are our most precious gifts and their care is our greatest responsibility. We would do anything to protect them, including laying down our lives, as the faculty and staff at Sandy Hook did on that horrific day. We know that putting guns in our schools will only put our children at greater risk. We need preventative steps to stop mass gun violence, not reactive measures, not just waiting for the next mass murder to occur, not thinking that we can "shoot down" every threat. We are committed to keeping our children safe and we will work to build a world where they can go to school free and without fear. Guns in our schools are not an answer. Guns in our schools will not ensure the safety of our cherished children. We will not allow guns in our schools.

Sincerely,

Sarah Finger McDonald & Brian W. McDonald
Parents of 2, ages 7 and 2
1600 NW Arthur Ave.
Corvallis, OR 97330

Christy Anderson Brekken & Ted K.A. Brekken
Parents of 2, ages 7 and 4
1528 NW Terracegreen Pl.
Corvallis, OR 97330

Heather Merfeld Felling and Tim Felling
Parents of 2, ages 7 and 2
1536 NW Terracegreen Pl
Corvallis, OR 97330

Lisa Wells, PhD and Jay Noller, PhD
Parents 2, ages 19 and 16
3204 NW Grant Ave
Corvallis, OR 97330

Melanie Marshall
2515 NW Windsor Pl.
Corvallis, OR 97330

Glencora Borradaile & Michael Gretes
1316 NW Taylor Ave
Corvallis, OR 97330

Lauren Gwin
Parents of 2, ages 5 and 2
Dixon Avenue
Corvallis, OR 97330

Gillian Wen
Parent of 2, ages 8 and 5
Corvallis, OR 97330

Leanne and Mark Giordono
Parents of 3, ages 9, 7, and 2
128 NW 28th St
Corvallis, OR 97330

Traci Wendell & James Lerczak
Parents of 2, ages 7 and 11
1431 NW Vista Pl
Corvallis, OR 97330

Linda J. Brewer
2630 NW Elmwood Dr.
Corvallis OR 97330

Larry Lev and Ann Shriver
Corvallis, OR 97330

Pallavi Dhagat
Parent of 2 year old
Corvallis, OR 97330

Bryan and Jenna Tilt
Parents of 2
2960 NW Firwood Drive
Corvallis, Oregon 97330

Tuba Ozkan-Haller
Parents of 3 children in Corvallis Public Schools
2759 NW Arnold Way
Corvallis, OR 97330

Paul H. Bausch and Shawnde Kathryn Bausch
Parents of 2, ages 5 and 2
3732 NW Wisteria Way
Corvallis, OR 97330

Aloke Gupta and Molly Shor
Parents 3, ages 6, 6, and 17
4380 NW Honeysuckle Dr
Corvallis, OR 97330-3300

Alexandra Regan and Andrew Plantinga
Parents of 2, ages 11 and 13
1635 NW Hillcrest Drive
Corvallis, OR 97330

Debra Carriere
Parents of 2, ages 11 and 8
Corvallis Oregon, 97330

Ilene and Sean McClelland
Parents of 2, ages 8 and 5
737 NW 14th Street
Corvallis, OR 97330

Dr. Ilana Dickson, MD
Parent of 2
Corvallis, OR 97330

James P. and B. Starr McMullen
866 NE Thousand Oaks DR.
Corvallis, OR 97330

Kelsey Burkum
Corvallis, OR 97330

Andrea Totten Delos-Reyes
4053 NE Morning St.
Corvallis, OR 97330

Martha & Kirk Shimeall
Parents of 2, ages 14 and 8
Grant Pl.
Corvallis, OR 97330

Nina Erlich-Williams & Severn Williams
Parents 2 ages 7 and 4
3349 NW Tanager Drive
Corvallis, OR 97330

Karen Levy Keon
Parents of 2
4620 SW Nash Ave.
Corvallis, OR 97333

Alice Eldridge and Mike Boucher
Parents of 5 year old
Corvallis, OR 97330

Jenny Graham
Parent of 3
Corvallis, OR 97330

Sarah Mason
Parent of 2, ages 6 and 3
Corvallis, OR 97330

Julie A. Evans Watkins
Parents of 2, ages 4 and 2
8596 NE John's Pl
Corvallis, OR 97330

Mindy Crandall and Kellie Vache
Parents of 2, ages 9 and 18
Corvallis, OR, 97330

Heidi & Mark Weisel
Parents of 6 year old
2900 NW Johnson Avenue
Corvallis, OR 97330

Dorothy Price
On staff for 23 years at Corvallis Montessori School
Corvallis, OR 97330

Courtney Armentrout & R. Kipp Shearman
Children ages 11, 8 and 3 in Corvallis School District
3550 NW Roosevelt Drive
Corvallis, OR 97330

Stephanie Gunckel & Andrew Talabere
Parents 5 year old
4127 NW Rolf Pl
Corvallis, OR 97330

Patricia Johnson
3110 SW Chintimini Ave
Corvallis, OR 97333

Linda Harris
Benton County

Meredith and Ted Wade
Parents of 2
1975 SE Crystal Lake Drive, Unit 183
Corvallis, OR 97333

Carol Soth
665 SE Atwood
Corvallis, OR 97333

Kathleen Crochet-Stursa
Scott L. Stursa
960 SE Mason Pl
Corvallis, Or 97333

Josiah Fisher
1615 SE Bethel St.
Corvallis, OR 97333

Oriane & Michael Taft
Parents of 3
2933 NW Mulkey Ave.
Corvallis, OR 97330

Gretchen Goode and Aaron Amoth
Parents of 3, a third grader, first grader and 2 year old
Corvallis, OR 97330

Dana Monroe
Mother of 2, ages 2 and 5, and a public school teacher
550 SE Chester Ave
Corvallis, Or. 97333

Jonathan and Kelly Hurst
1507 NW North Heights Drive
Albany, Oregon, 97321

Jeff Miller and Aurora Sherman
Parents of a 3rd grader
2830 NW Monterey Dr.
Corvallis, OR 97330

Russell and Jeannie Sullivan
910 SE Alexander Ave
Corvallis OR 97333-2052

Natalie Sullivan
1756 SE Lilly Pl.
Corvallis, OR 97333

Heidi Lewis
Corvallis, OR

Brigid Gearen and Jonathan Nash
Parents of 2, ages 8 and 2
3310 NW Crest Drive
Corvallis, OR, 97330

Gwendolyn Ellen
Corvallis, OR

Brigetta Olson
Mother of 2
520 SE Richland
Corvallis, Oregon 97333

Tara Nierenberg
Parent of a 1st grader at Hoover School
2035 NW Sunview Dr.
Corvallis, OR 97330

Debbie Alba
24005 Ervin Road
Philomath, OR 97370

Ron and Felicia Metoyer
Parents of 3
Corvallis, Oregon

Karin Kajsa Johnson
Parent an 8th grader and 4th grader
1680 NW Arthur Circle
Corvallis OR 97330

Marilyn Tate Koenitzer and Will Koenitzer
4240 SW Fairhaven Drive
Corvallis, OR 97333

Jerry and Judy Rooney
885 NW Conifer
Corvallis, OR 97330

Olivia & Arthur Salamon
Parents to 6 year old
Corvallis, OR 97330

Sara Zeman, J.D. and Stuart Ray Sarbacker, Ph.D.
Parents of 2
Corvallis, OR 97330

Rochelle Murphy
Retired LBCC Instructor and parent of three teachers
3115 NW McKinley Dr.
Corvallis, OR 97330

Dr. Robert P. Griffiths and Betty Griffiths
3248 NW Taft Avenue
Corvallis, OR 97330
Allen Brown
1620 SW 35th St
Corvallis, OR 97333

Anne Halpin
Parent of 19 year old
3417 SE 3rd Street
Corvallis OR 97333

Alissa and Keith Moses
346 N. 9th St.
Philomath, OR 97370

Patricia Page Smythe
Concerned citizen and former teacher
2758 SW Fairmont Drive
Corvallis, Oregon, 97333

Skip Wenz and Pam Serra-Wenz
Corvallis, OR. 97330

Dan McKenzie
2920 NW Mulkey Ave
Corvallis, OR 97330-1837

Carolyn Madsen
Grandmother of a Jefferson Elementary 4 grader
915 NW Westwood Place
Corvallis, OR 97330

Patricia Berman
3414 NW Maxine Circle
Corvallis 97330

Cassandra Robertson & James Reismiller
7267 NW Grandview Dr,
Corvallis OR 97330

David & Sarah Kailin
3040 NW Taft Ave.
Corvallis, OR 97330

Barbara Schatz
Corvallis, OR

Patrick McLaughlin
Corvallis, OR

Susan and Jeff Morre
Parents of a junior at Corvallis High School
2775 SW Fairmont Drive
Corvallis, Oregon 97330

Gayle Brody
3720 NW Glenridge Dr.
Corvallis, OR 97330
John Gaylord
6055 NW Rosewood Dr.
Corvallis, OR 97330

Rachel Ozretich, M.S., CFLE
Grandparent of 2 young children in Corvallis schools
453 SE Powell Avenue
Corvallis, OR 97333

Kathleen T. Rochester
3200 NW Garfield Avenue
Corvallis, OR 97330

Maya Abels
5888 SW Englewood Ave
Corvallis, OR 97333

Debra Higbee-Sudyka
4750 SW Nash Avenue
Corvallis, Oregon 97333

Pamela Hood-Szivek, OTR
Corvallis Children's Therapy
456 SW Monroe Ave
Corvallis, OR. 97333

Donna Koval-Jensen
Mother and grandmother
301 NE Byron Place
Corvallis OR 97330

Peggy Peirson
1675 Rosecrest Drive
Philomath, OR. 97370

Emily Whiteman
984 NW Circle Blvd, Apt 13
Corvallis, OR 97330

Jill Fischer
34217 NE Colorado Lake Drive
Corvallis, OR 97333

Angelica Rehkugler
720 SE Atwood Ave.
Corvallis 97333
Lynn Russell
940 NW 30th St
Corvallis OR 97330.

Erin Sneller
Mother of 2, ages 14 and 18
2098 NW Myrtlewood Way
Corvallis, OR 97330541-753-9170

Laurie Childers
2675 SW Fairmont Dr
Corvallis 97333

Don Hall
Corvallis, OR 97330

Linda Audrain
Grandmother 2, age 3 and 10 months
Corvallis, 97330

Nancy Swain & David Pilotte
1310 Calapooia Str SW
Albany, OR 97321

Bart and Jennifer Eleveld
277 NE Conifer Blvd., Unit 43,
Corvallis, OR 97330

Sandy Piper
Corvallis, OR

Benjamin Barnett
Father of 3, ages 9, 7 and 4
Corvallis, OR, 97330

Cyrel Gable
Parent of two grown children who attended Corvallis
schools
1414 NW Vista Place
Corvallis, OR 97330

Rebecca Hutchinson and Peter White
1750 NW Menlo Dr.
Corvallis, OR 97330

Dale and Beverly Plank
Grandparents of an 11 year old in Corvallis
1428 SW Trophy Place.
Corvallis, OR

Nancy Savage
1648 NW Garryanna St
Corvallis 97330

Susan Peterson Aynes
1320 NW Menlo Dr
Corvallis, OR 97330

Jane Nichols
2535 NW Hayes Ave
Corvallis, OR 97330

Annie Chozinski
2535 NW Hayes Ave
Corvallis, OR 97330

Morgan and Sarah Brown
Father and mother 5 yr. old and 2 yr. old
3246 NW Glenridge Dr.
Corvallis, OR 97330

Carylyn and Nathan Breece
743 NW 18th Street
Corvallis, OR 97330

Heidi Laurel Nevin and Chhultim Lama
Parents of a 5 year old
2030 NW Elder St.
Corvallis, OR 97330

Barb Lagerquist and Joe Hanson
Parents of a 9 yr. old and a 7 yr. old
1055 SE Bell Avenue
Corvallis, Or 97333
541-752-8852

Kim Hannigan
1755 NW Menlo Dr.
Corvallis, OR 97330

Kelly Guenther & Richard A Guenther
Parents of a 5 yr. old and a 3 yr. old
1918 NW Lance Way
Corvallis, OR 97330

Jennifer Smits
Mother of a 1st grader and a preschooler
3367 NW Marshall Ave
Corvallis, OR 97330

Kara Olsen-Becerra
Mother of a 7 yr old, 5 yr old and 2 yr. old
Corvallis, Ore.

Judi Kloper
7290 NE Pettibone Drive
Corvallis, Oregon 97330

Ryan Brown
Mother of a 2 year old
Daughter of teachers
Corvallis, OR 97330

Sarah and Richard Sapon-White
Parents of 2
2346 Applegate Street,
Philomath, OR 97370.

Carol Hennessy
3019 NW Lisa Place
Corvallis, OR 97330
Diane J. Wenzel
Corvallis, OR 97330

William Drabkin
Father and grandparent
Corvallis, OR

Marlene Liff-Anderson
31679 Homestead Road
Philomath OR 97370

Joni Plotkin
Mother of 3
Corvallis, Oregon

Melanie Feder
Mother of 2
Corvallis, Oregon

Pamela G. Stephens, M.Ed.
Parent of 3
Corvallis, OR

Barbara Levine
5595 NW Fair Oaks Dr
Corvallis, OR 97330

Ellie Rose and John Larison
Parents of a 5, 3, and 2 year old
3558 NW Polk Ave.
Corvallis, OR 97330

Ellen Beier
5453 SW Windflower Dr
Corvallis Or 97333

Sarah Maxwell
Mother of 14 year old and 18 year old CHS students
Corvallis Oregon

Evan Gottlieb
Parent of 2
Corvallis, OR

Susan and Mike Aronson
Corvallis, OR

Dennis and Elizabeth Lazaroff
Corvallis, OR 97330

BLou Carman
Retired CHS English and psychology teacher with 30
years of teaching experience in Corvallis schools
George Carman-owner/manager of Lucidyne
Technology---a Corvallis engineering company with 40
employees
2961 NW Jackson Avenue
Corvallis 97330

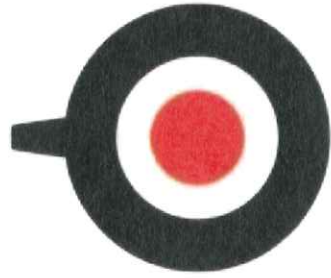
Jon and Holly Bendixen
2999 Southwood Drive
Philomath, OR. 97370

128 households
184 individuals; plus extra hand-written pages to equal
300 signers.



MOMS DEMAND ACTION

**FOR GUN SENSE
IN AMERICA**



OR/Mid-Willamette Chapter