

I am not currently a parent, but I keep a firearm for defense. It is not locked up, because it won't do any good locked up if I need it in an emergency. If and when I become a parent, it will be even more critical for me to be able to defend my home and my children without worrying that I might go to jail for teaching my children to understand guns and how to treat them. This would simply make it harder for parents to do their jobs, and protects no one.

This bill would cause parents who are trying to protect their families to be more afraid of the law than of the lawbreakers. Threatening fines and jail time will do nothing to stop people who are already irresponsible, and will only punish those who are raising their kids to be safe and responsible.

My parents taught me how to treat guns. I took target shooting classes at summer camp as a 10 year old! Many parents I know who choose to keep firearms do the same today. And how would this ever be enforced? SB 945 simply creates one more law that uses time and money that could be spent stopping real illegal activities and firearms from getting into the wrong hands.

Let parents do their jobs instead of trying to do it for them. There are many ways to encourage training, safety, and responsibility without making it harder for parents to be parents.

I urge you to dismiss this bill and spend your time on more important and realistic issues.

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