

I would like to see our legislature pass SB 945, even though there is a flood of negative comment on it. This comment seems centered on the idea that if families have loaded guns available instantly, they can protect themselves better. Guns are seventeen times more likely to injure or kill someone who owns them, than to defend them. Our gun deaths run ten times higher than those of any other industrialized modern country.

Responsible adults are supposed to keep dangerous items where children cannot access them. But even responsible adults, and I hope I am one, are more likely to act responsibly if there is a reminder or law to support wise actions. For example, there is a law, originally passed in 1906 and amended many times, that requires food and drug manufacturers to list the contents of their products. There are no "food police" in grocery stores, but I look at these labels, and if the contents sound like a mix of many strange chemicals, I am less likely to buy unhealthy food. Rules DO encourage people to do what is safe and healthy. - Allan Smyth, Prineville.