

**From:** David R Brock  
**To:** [SJUD Exhibits](#)  
**Cc:** [David R Brock](#)  
**Subject:** Please Support SB 797 and SB 868  
**Date:** Friday, April 14, 2017 5:10:05 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

*[I regret that I will be out of state next week so am unable to attend the hearings in Salem. I share the following as my written testimony. Please feel free to use all or part of it, if beneficial. Thank you. DRB]*

At almost the same moment that 3 colleagues and I were giving a “reducing gun violence” presentation at First Presbyterian Church in Bend on Friday, April 7, a high school student in our community took his life with a firearm.

As a Christian Minister and as the Faith Outreach Lead for Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in Central Oregon, I am writing to ask you to support SB 797 and SB 868, legislation designed to reduce gun violence in our state.

You are undoubtedly getting significant pressure from the NRA and the Oregon Firearms Federation to oppose these bills. As news mounts this month of firearm murders by spouses with a history of violence, several more senseless and irreversible deaths should weigh heavily upon our collective conscience.

The arguments by ‘gun control’ opponents ring so hollow and are so distorted in the face of the daily news of death by firearms. This legislation is NOT about gun control. It is about sensible regulations (akin to driver’s licenses for those who pass tests and don’t have DUI’s) to assure preventable loss of precious lives. Can’t we take a reasonable step to save just one more life?

I invite you to read the daily bulletin from the research organizations THE TRACE at <https://www.thetrace.org/> or <http://www.gunviolencearchive.org/> Please take a few minutes to see in black and white the realities of gun violence every day.

As I write these words on Good Friday, there have been 4,240 recorded deaths by firearm so far this year in the United States. Four thousand two hundred forty! We lost more than 35,000 citizens to gun violence in the US in 2016. For comparison, the average death toll by guns in Japan per year is less than 20. Twenty!

From my Christian heritage (but mindful of all citizens and faith communities of our state) please, please, following Holy Week, can we not mark the death by violence on Golgotha (the place of the skull) by choosing life, by acting in resurrection hope?

SB 797 and SB 868 are not just legislative matters. They are moral and spiritual acts.

Thank you for your attention to these life and death matters in our state and nation.

Sincerely,

David Brock

Faith Outreach Team Lead

**MOMS**   
**DEMAND**  
**ACTION**

FOR GUN SENSE IN AMERICA

Deschutes County, Oregon

[dbrock@cofchrist.org](mailto:dbrock@cofchrist.org)

Phone: 816-665-2261