

**From:** [Spencer Metzsch](#)  
**To:** [SJUD Exhibits](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Legislative Concept 38  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 14, 2020 2:16:39 PM

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Regarding Legislative Concept 38:

I would like to voice my concerns over this proposed law. I think this bill is well intentioned- reducing crime is a just cause- but it will only hurt those who would never do any harm to others, while failing to hold real criminals responsible for their actions.

There are a lot of different studies on violence in this country but the most common estimates are that Americans successfully defend themselves with a firearm between 500,000 and 3,000,000 times every year. That contrasts with the approximately 10,000 firearm homicides. This law would make firearms less accessible for personal protection, which is a valid and common use of a firearm.

I think this law also places an undue burden on gun owners- a burden that would never be placed on owners of other potentially dangerous devices. Cars and alcohol result in many more deaths than firearms (36,500 and 88,000 respectively), and yet there is no call to keep car keys or bottles locked in safes.

I also take issue with gun owners being held responsible for actions committed by another person who has stolen their firearm. Let me put forward two hypothetical scenarios: 1. A criminal breaks into a home and steals a firearm, then shoots someone. 2. A criminal breaks into a home and steals car keys, then runs someone over. Is one scenario worse than the other? Under this new law, the person whose property was stolen would be held responsible for one but not the other. I don't think a reasonable person could draw a distinction between the two. In each scenario the burglarized person's involvement is the same, and the end result is the same.

I highly encourage readers of this letter to do their own research on this topic. I pulled all of the numbers from reputable sources such as the CDC and FBI, but by all means go verify what I have said.

One more note: I find it somewhat ironic that the Clackamas Town Center shooting is referenced in this bill as a reason for its necessity- as that shooting was stopped by a man with a concealed carry license.

Thank you for your time, and I urge you to reconsider the ideas presented in this bill.

Spencer Metzsch