

03-26-19

Chair Senator Rob Wagner
Vice-Chair Senator Chuck Thomsen
Member Senator Sara Gelser
Member Senator Mark Hass
Member Senator Dallas Heard

Subject: Support of SB 801

Dear Senators,

I fully support SB 801. This bill would provide basic safety education to young children.

With information provided to parents at home, they can reinforce the lessons, and one avenue for firearms safety will be paved. Education in all forms of safety is a responsible "adult" thing to provide for our children. The information as outlined in 1(9) should be handed out to all students to take home so that positive reinforcement can take place by the children's parents in the home.

I can still remember in my elementary school days (of far too many years ago) of repeated instruction to get an adult and to not touch firearms, blasting caps, fireworks and a host of other dangerous items.

There are some areas of this bill that should be addressed, but it is a very good start. I do have a little concern with the dash 2 amendment. Why only a Law Enforcement Officer who is a Certified Firearms Instructor? Why not a "civilian" certified Firearms Instructor? There are many certified firearms instructors, to include Hunter Education Instructors under the umbrella of Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, who could fulfill the requirements for teaching this class.

I also have a concern that the dash 2 would also put a lot of Law Enforcement Officers in a conflict between their Agency Policy and Procedures by having to be unarmed (As per Section 1 sub 5 of the Introduced Bill) while in uniform and / or an Official Department function.

I feel that "(5) At no time may any real firearm or live ammunition be used or possessed during the class." I feel that it should be amended to read: "At no time may any real firearm or live ammunition be used as a tool or teaching prop during the class."

Sincerely
Jim Mischel
Sheridan Oregon

Retired NRA firearms instructor, Retired Police Firearms instructor, Range Master, Current Range Safety Officer, past State Rifle and Pistol Champion, former National level competitor, Distinguished Rifle and Pistol Shooter national level designation (DCM), Police Distinguished Shooter (NRA).