

As a Pediatrician, I think everyone should know:

### **Every Day on Average (ages 0-19)**

Every day, **46 children and teens** are shot in murders, assaults, suicides & suicide attempts, unintentional shootings, and police intervention.

Every day, **7 children and teens** die from gun violence:

- 4 are murdered
- 3 die from suicide

Every day, **40 children and teens** are shot and survive:

- 31 injured in an attack
- 1 survives a suicide attempt
- 8 shot unintentionally

### **In One Year on Average (ages 0-19)**

**17,012 American children and teens** are shot in murders, assaults, suicides & suicide attempts, unintentional shootings, or by police intervention.

**2,647 kids** die from gun violence:

- 1,565 murdered
- 907 die from suicide
- 116 killed unintentionally
- 27 killed by legal intervention
- 32 die but intent was unknown

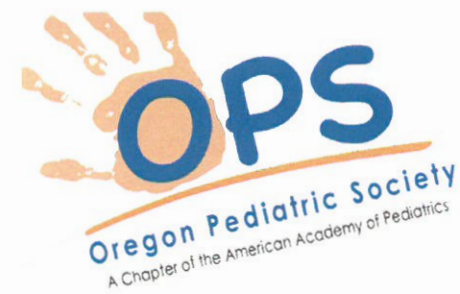
**14,365 kids** survive gun injuries:

- 11,321 injured in an attack
- 232 survive a suicide attempt
- 2,747 shot unintentionally
- 65 shot in a legal intervention

**In America, 1 out of 3 homes with kids have guns and nearly 1.7 million children live in a home with an unlocked, loaded gun.**

We care about children, this must end. Working together we can, and we will remove the scourge of gun violence from the lives of our children. Get involved, let your elected representatives know that this must end. Children are the only future we will have, we must act now to protect them.

Source: The Brady Center in Gun Violence



DATE: March 29, 2019

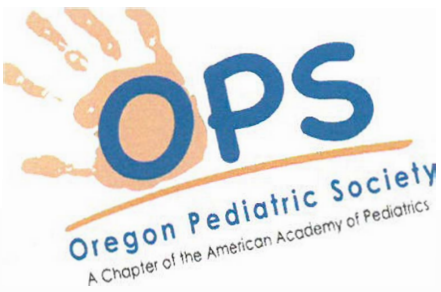
TO: Senator Floyd Prozanski and Committee Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee

FROM: Kristina Haley, DO  
Oregon Pediatric Society

SUBJECT: Senate Bill 978 Testimony in Support

For the record, I am Kristina Haley, DO representing the Oregon Pediatric Society (OPS). OPS is the state chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Our members are committed to improving the health and well-being of all Oregon children. We carry out our health equity mission through policy advocacy; quality improvement programs that support practice change; and the ongoing education of providers who serve children. We are here today in support of Senate Bill 978, the Cindy Yuille and Steve Forsyth Act. This bill will result in a significant reduction in firearm violence and suicide.

I am a pediatric hematologist/oncologist practicing in Portland, OR. I spend most of my days taking care of children with diseases related to their blood system, doing my best to treat their symptoms, provide effective management, and get them back to their typical days of learning at school and in their environment, engaging in their communities, and figuring out their hopes and dreams. I am constantly struck by the irony of our ability to care for rare and complex diseases yet still have children fall victim to firearm violence that is, in most cases, entirely preventable. About one year ago and soon after the awful shootings at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, I was talking with a teenage patient while she was receiving a fairly routine intravenous medication when she received a text alert that her high school was on lock-down due to concern about an active shooter. She immediately received and sent many text messages from and to her friends, ensuring that they were safe and providing comforting words. Minutes later, her mom received a text alert notifying her that the community college where her other daughter attended school was also on lock-down due to concern about an active shooter. Nearly simultaneously, two different lock-downs were occurring in two separate schools that were about 50 miles from one another – both due to concern for possible firearm violence. In that moment, I paused and thought to myself, how safe is it to send my patients back to school? Are my efforts to limit school absence and to increase attendance putting my patients at risk by exposing them to more violence? It was a moment that



prompted me to commit to being more involved in the efforts to address the epidemic of firearm violence in our country.

The proposed Senate Bill 978 is an effort to improve firearm safety in the state of Oregon. This bill will result in safer storage of firearms as well as safer transfer of firearms. This will reduce the number of children exposed to unsecured firearms and as a result, it will decrease the number of children at risk for gun violence. Unsecured guns increase the risk of school shootings, unintentional shootings, and suicides. A simple step of improving the laws around firearm safety will make our communities safer for our children so that they can grow up and do all the amazing things they dream of doing.

I am happy to be a resource to the committee regarding this important bill. Please feel free to contact me with any further questions. Thank you for this opportunity to provide my testimony.

Sincerely,

Kristina Haley, DO, MCR  
Portland, OR