

Respected Oregon Legislators,

I write in support of Senate Bill 978 and its provisions: (1) for civil fines for guns which are not stored safely. There is nothing sadder than a responsible gun owner whose child is killed because a gun was not locked away when not in use. To the extent that civil fines are a proven deterrent, this provision should be no different than a speeding ticket. Since crimes are committed with guns stolen from their owners, (2) the requirement to report a stolen gun makes a lot of sense as well - in the same way that we report a stolen car, it's just common sense for all of us who want to live in a cooperative society in support of each other. Finally, (3) raising the minimum age to 18 for buying a gun doesn't seem onerous to me when a parent who really wants a twelve year old to have their own can certainly still do that.

This seems like a common sense way to keep guns out of the hands of people who will misuse or be injured by them. If guns don't kill people but people kill people, let's do what we can to make sure that those people can't get their hands on the guns.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Ariel Stone

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"Justice, Justice Shall You Pursue, That You May Live" - (*Devarim* 16.20) - In 5779 Shir Tikvah seeks to learn and do justice without and justice within

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Rabbi Ariel's book is available here: [Because All Is One](#)

Rabbi Ariel's blog is [Torah for the 21st Century](#)

You can follow her on Twitter at @ravarielstone

please note: emails to the Rabbi are not answered on Shabbat or holy days, nor on Monday, the rabbi's day off. You are welcome to call the Shir Tikvah office on any working weekday to speak with us.