

Oregon Senators,

I urge you to please NOT pursue new laws concerning firearms in Oregon. These laws are not needed at this time. Please instead focus on how to effectively enforce the current laws. New laws will be ignored by criminals just as they ignore current laws. Please consider my point of view on the following:

Safe gun storage – requiring that firearms be completely locked up renders them non-viable in a threatening situation. Oregon citizens have the right to defend themselves and to do this, often times means with a firearm. Responsible firearm owners know how to store their firearms to be used in the most effective manner. Lawmakers should not try to dictate how this should be done.

Liability on firearm owners if their firearms are stolen – why would we make the victim of a crime the responsible party? The victim should be treated as such, the criminal who committed the crime should be held responsible and pay for their crime(s).

Untraceable and undetectable firearms – this often means family heirlooms passed down from generation to generation to law abiding citizens. Do not take these family treasures away as they are memories and part of the rich heritage of our Oregon citizens.

Minimum age to purchase a firearm – if a person is old enough to join our armed forces, or get drafted, they should be old enough to purchase a firearm. Many are now trying to lower the voting age in Oregon, how can an argument be made that a 16 year old is mature enough to vote, which also has long term consequences, but an 18 year old is not mature enough to purchase a firearm. In addition, the legal age to purchase a big game hunting tag is 12, how are those young hunters supposed to be able to purchase a firearm and pursue a wonderful outdoor sport that is a big part of many families and communities lives? In addition, this is discrimination to 18 – 20 year old citizens.

Again, I urge you to use your valuable time and resources to figure out how to enforce our current laws to ensure criminals are held accountable for their crimes.

Respectfully,

Darren Davidson
Medford