

Testimony for SB978

April 2, 2019

My name is Hilary Uhlig, and I live in Hillsboro. I am the volunteer state legislative lead for the Oregon chapter of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America. I am also the mother of 2 kids in high school who have both been through school lockdowns where they have texted me, "I love you, Mom," like they were saying goodbye... just in case... and it broke my heart.

I am here today to urge you to vote YES on the -1 amendment to Senate Bill 978. This past fall, I and many of our Moms Demand Action volunteers worked hard to help elect Gun Sense Champions to our State Legislature. On Election Day, Oregonians delivered a clear message that we want leaders who will help break the pattern of gun violence in our nation which kills 100 Americans and wounds hundreds more every single day.

This proposal contains many common-sense ways to reduce gun violence in our communities and gives us the tools to help manage firearm access in ways that will keep guns out of the hands of people who should not have access to them. Purchasing or possessing a firearm comes with a great responsibility. This proposal will help to reduce gun violence by:

- Allowing gun dealers at gun shows to establish a minimum age for purchase of firearms.
- Responsible storage of firearms. This is something the majority of responsible gun owners already do, but SB 978 will make it clear that all gun owners need to store their firearms in locked containers and away from children
- Requiring reporting of lost or stolen guns, which will help law enforcement be aware when guns may potentially be in the hands of people who should not have them. We know that gun thefts have been on the rise in recent years and research suggests that the majority of stolen firearms recovered by police were recovered in connection with crimes.
- Banning untraceable, undetectable firearms, which protects all of us from dangerous situations in public places.

I urge you to support the -1 amendment to SB978 to protect Oregonians and help keep our communities safer. Thank you.