

Chair Prozanski and Committee:

My name is Teri Mills. I am a registered nurse and a member of the Oregon Nurses Association- an endorsing organization for responsible gun storage.

Nurses are all too often on the frontlines caring for a child who was tragically, even fatally injured by an unlocked gun. PREVENTION is the key! Just as we now require all passengers in their car to wear a seat belt or mandate a helmet be worn when riding a bike, the same safety measure should be in place for anyone owning a gun. Children are curious and simply “putting a gun out of reach or hidden from sight” is NOT working. Every single day we read another story about a dead child.

Every day, [19 children are shot in America](#), according to a recent study. Nearly [1,300 kids under the age of 18 die every year](#) from gunshot wounds, and almost [6,000 go to the hospital for non-fatal firearm injuries](#).

Please join nurses and take action to promote and protect the safety of all children.

VOTE YES ON SB 978.

Thank you,  
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