

Please consider this testimony regarding the amended SB 978:

Several provisions of this proposed and amended bill are troubling. In particular, provisions that would hold gun owners responsible for two years for guns they "transferred/sold" unless they could prove the transferred gun had a trigger lock or cable lock; this provision requires PROOF OF INNOCENCE, which is a fundamental violation of the presumption of innocence, which is the bedrock of our legal system. The provisions allowing for civil liability even if gun owners locked up their firearm(s) but a thief was able to break into the safe, lockbox, etc. and making gun owners "strictly liable" for crimes committed with guns that were stolen from them similarly criminalize persons who have committed no crime.

These features of SB 978 are contrary to law and to fundamental principles of the rights of citizenship and should be excised from the bill if the bill is not entirely rejected.

Respectfully,

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