

2/6/2020

Testimony in opposition to HB 4005

I am in opposition to HB4005 for the following reasons:

1. How does reporting the theft of a firearm within 72 hours do anything about it not being used in a crime? I don't believe it does.
2. If a firearm is stolen all that needs to happen is the trigger lock be removed to use it. Is it reasonable to believe that a criminal can't figure out how to remove the lock? I don't believe it is.
3. A minor can only possess a firearm under the direct supervision of an adult. This means that a 17-year-old can't hunt by himself unless he is hunting a PREDATORY animal. This is ridiculous at best. What about the thousands of young hunters that don't hunt predatory animals? Now they can't hunt by themselves?
4. Why is the hunting of a predatory animal the only exclusion in this bill?
5. When a gun is stolen, the owner has no way to know if the person stealing it is a minor or an adult. Why would there be separate levels of violation for this. Seems a bit ludicrous. I am certain the gun owner wasn't wanting his gun stolen in the first place.
6. Do we really want to put the financial burden of prosecuting 22,000 gun thefts over the next 10 years because someone didn't have a trigger lock? It seems like there are a lot better things to spend that kind of money on that would add more value to society.
7. While it is tragic that the two people named in this bill were shot with a stolen firearm, it was a firearm that was not secured in a container with a trigger lock that saved the rest of the people in the vicinity from also being shot that day at Clackamas Town Center.
8. While it is tragic when anyone gets shot, the death of a single person or even a group of people by a random act of violence of some person, is not worth giving up the rights given by constitution of the United States to keep an bear arms. The false perceived safety of a few does not outweigh my right to handle and store a firearm how I so choose. It is not the governments place to infringe upon my rights in this manner. Freedom is about having the ability to make the choice yourself and not have someone else tell you what you should or shouldn't do. Its about being able to make the wrong choice not the one that everyone else might think is the right one.
9. This bill is a poorly thought out attempt to whittle away a citizen's gun rights by people who clearly don't even handle guns on a regular basis or they would have addressed some if not all of the points above. This bill is about one group trying to legislate away another groups rights not about two people that tragically lost their lives.

Please oppose this bill. It does not add to the safety of society and only further erodes a person's ability to defend themselves and their families and other members of society. This bill is not good for me and it is not good for Oregon.

Brad Barcroft