



February 7, 2020

House Committee on Judiciary
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: HB 4005

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony. As a 2019 high school graduate, I am still very close to the reactions I felt throughout high school. One of these reactions was that I was terrified that my school could be the next school shooting. Every time we would have an assembly about what to do if that were to happen, my stomach would drop. I'd constantly take notes in my mind of which students talked about guns or mentioned they had access to them at home. No one should have to think about those terrifying scenarios, let alone students, teachers, and parents.

When I first heard about HB 4005, the statistics shocked me. Especially that two-thirds of the school shootings could have been prevented if guns had been safely stored away from children. Also, the second leading cause of death in teens is suicide by a firearm. The amount of lives that have been lost due to firearms getting into the wrong hands is frightening. Who could be next? Hopefully if HB4005 is passed, we could reduce the amount of deaths related to gun violence in Oregon. Even if one life is saved, it's one more life that can thrive and make a difference.

Please support HB 4005 to save lives from being cut short due to gun violence and to help put parents and students at ease at school.

Sincerely,
Amanda Taylor
Policy Intern

Our Children Oregon
Bringing Together Children First for Oregon and the Children's Trust Fund of Oregon
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