

House Judiciary Members:

I am writing to urge your support for HB 4005 Secure Storage and Disrupting Dangerous Access to Firearms.

Given the horror of and continued increase in mass shootings in the US, I sought to take action and joined Moms Demand Action For Gun Sense in America to address this critical issue. This bill is one step to increase gun safety in Oregon by requiring gun owners to ensure that their guns are properly stored and not accessible to children or people with violent criminal histories.

In addition to the students shot and killed in their schools and people whose lives have been cut short in public settings and at home, we have a serious problem in Oregon with suicide by gun, which represents 82% of the total gun deaths in our state. It is also the 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of death among children and teens—a number that must be reduced.

Secure storage of firearms is a crucial step to protect children by helping to prevent unauthorized access to guns and it saves lives. Data show that the availability of a gun in the home increases the likelihood of its use for people considering suicide. We also know that 65% of all Oregonians support safe storage and 58% of gun owners do, too.

I urge you to support HB 4005 and pass it along to the full House for its action.

Thank you,

Susan Hanson &  
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