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Representative Moore-Green
Representative Noble
Representative Schouten

I am writing in support of HB-2510, to increase gun safety. Its provisions are straightforward from a gun safety perspective: secure firearms, report loss of theft, and supervise minor's use.

I respect the 2nd Amendment right of responsible adults to own and use guns. I know that the vast majority of gun owners and users are responsible and careful. I have never owned a gun. My only experience is with a 45-pistol that I faithfully learned how to clean, care for, and shoot as part of my training before being deployed to Vietnam as a Navy physician (1970-1971). As a primary care internist for over 35 years I knew that possession of a gun represents a major risk factor for those who are burdened with mental illness. As a citizen I know that careless mistakes can put vulnerable people, especially minors, at risk.

We have an (epidemic) of gun violence in our country., a public health crisis. There were close to 40,000 firearm deaths in the U.S. (2018), about 108 per day, and 4.5 per hour. In 2015 there were just over 11 gun violence deaths per 100,000 population, compared with just 1/100,000 in other comparable countries.

<https://www.bmj.com/content/368/bmj.m1074.abstract>

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HB2510 allows gun owners to feel more comfortable in assuring gun safety for others within their sphere and to enhance their image as dutifully responsible gun owners.

I encourage you to approve HB-2510.