

Members of the House Committee on Health Care,

As a mother, community member, and gun owner, I strongly support HB 2510. Owning a firearm is a not just a right, but a privilege. And as with all privilege it entails a basic level of responsibility. Unfortunately, too many people do not exercise that responsibility when it comes to firearms. According to a 2018 Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health study OVER 50% of gun owners do not store their guns safely! HB 2510 will help promote secure and safe storage of firearms and help prevent unauthorized access by children and other people who may be a risk to themselves and others.

I think it is abominable that children in our country go to school afraid of being gunned down, and as a result are put through traumatic active shooter drills. According to the Washington Post, in 80% of school shootings committed by children since 1999, the child got the weapon from their own home or the home of a friend or relative. Requiring gun owners to securely store their weapons when not in use, and report them stolen in a timely manner, will SAVE LIVES and make our communities and schools safer.

I strongly urge you to support House Bill 2510.

Thank you.