

Honorable Committee Members:

Please consider my testimony against HB 2510. Requiring private citizens to render their firearms inaccessible in their own homes is irresponsible & puts crime victims at extreme risk! When seconds count, police are minutes or more away. This is especially true for rural residents, who will disproportionately suffer the deadly effects of this bill.

As the survivor of a home invasion in the 1980's, I understand first-hand the necessity of being equipped to defend myself and am fully capable of doing so. Accessible, fully-functional firearms provide women and senior citizens in particular the ability to effectively manage larger male attackers. After both reducing penalties for felons and resources for law enforcement, it is appalling that this legislature plans to impede the ability of crime victims to defend themselves!

In addition to restricting our ability to protect our homes and families, HB 2510 would make victims liable for future crimes committed by gun thieves. This is akin to making victims of auto theft liable for future car accidents and does nothing to increase penalties for ACTUAL PERPETRATORS.

Punishing crime victims and disarming law-abiding citizens in their own homes will do nothing to reduce criminal violence and will only further victimize our most vulnerable citizens. PLEASE reconsider this ill-conceived bill. It is anti-woman, anti-victim and likely unconstitutional.

In DC v. Heller, the US Supreme Court ruled an ordinance requiring firearms in the home to be kept inoperable violated the Second Amendment because it "made it impossible for citizens to use their firearms for the core lawful purpose of self-defense." Please protect your law-abiding constituents and vote NO on HB 2510!

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