

Submitter: Suzanne Pflaum
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure: SB527

I am writing as a concerned citizen, mother of a curious toddler, and witness to gun violence in my neighborhood.

Firearms are now the leading cause of death for American children and teens, but Oregon law sets a dangerously low minimum age for buying and possessing firearms. Research shows that individuals aged 18-to-20 years old commit gun homicides at a rate nearly 3 times greater than adults 21-and-over. Providing any means to limiting the accessibility of guns into the hands of young people will unequivocally save lives. Please pass this common sense gun law to protect our children and our communities.

Please protect the most vulnerable of our society by passing this law.

Suzanne Pflaum

Sources:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. WONDER Online Database, Underlying Cause of Death, Injury Mechanism & All Other Leading Causes. Data from 2020.
- Children and teenagers aged 1 to 19.
- <https://everytownresearch.org/rankings/law/minimum-age-to-purchase/>