Dear Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am writing in support of the HB 7218 and HB 7223 which both address sensible actions to make our society safer for children and other vulnerable people.

Every legislator should be concerned by the amount of gun violence in our society and the lives lost. Safe gun storage legislation is evidence based policy. Research has shown a clear reduction in lives lost in State’s that have strong laws regarding safe storage.

As a parent and now a grand-parent, I am always concerned when young children go to play at a house where the parents own guns. I want to know the law is on my side to protect my children or grand-children from unsafely stored guns. That is why the pharmaceutical companies responded to a tragedy by implementing child-lock containers – to avoid accidental use of prescription drugs. Common sense says we need to do something similar for guns.

In my lifetime, I have seen so-called controversial measures lead to reduced deaths whether it is seat belts, air bags, or helmets. Turning a blind eye to these proposed bills is irresponsible. The arguments for not passing these laws do not hold up under scrutiny and especially in light of the devastation that results from unsafe storage of loaded or unloaded weapons. As the saying goes, the Constitution is not a “suicide pact”; those who cite the ambiguous second amendment as reason for not acting responsibly on gun storage are being ignorant of history and common-sense.

I ask that you support these sensible measures to make our society safer. This is the most important thing you do as our representatives.

Best Regards,

Ed Edelson
203 598 2912