

I am testifying in **support of**:

H.B. 7218, *An Act Concerning the Safe Storage of Firearms in the Home*

H.B. 7223 *An Act Concerning the Safe Storage of Firearms in Vehicles*

H.B. 7219, *An Act Concerning Ghost Guns*

S.B. 60 *An Act Concerning the Presentation of a Carry Permit.*

*I support the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment; I support an individual's right to own a gun. What I don't support is the gross misinterpretation of it or the misguided notion that the only way to effectively protect oneself is by having a gun in the house that's not stored safely.*

An unlocked gun is 30 times more likely to be used to horrifying or tragic effect against a loved one. Every day, **8 children** are unintentionally shot or killed by a gun.

Since that tragic day in December of 2012, when I became an unwitting activist on the issue of gun safety -- and in this setting, urged your colleagues for rational, common sense change to our current gun laws -- **18,224** children have been shot or killed by a gun that was easily accessible. Securely stored firearms could have prevented most of these tragedies. Safe storage laws keep firearms out of the reach of the people we can all agree shouldn't have it: young children, suicidal teens and adults, domestic abusers and criminals.

As the neighbor of a woman who died a few weeks ago from a gun at the hands of an abusive partner, as a citizen activist, as a District Representative, as a voter, and most importantly as a mother, I urge you to change the narrative. You have the power to stop this bleeding...

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