

OPPOSE HB636

Public Safety - Access to Firearms - Storage Requirements.

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Hopefully you have heard and understood my oral testimony about how dangerously arbitrary and vague the phrase “minor *could* gain access” is, and how easily the budding handyman and metalworker I was at age sixteen *could* have accessed just about any gun safe readily available to the general public. I’ll also remind you to please check out the “Lockpickinglawyer” channel on Youtube to see just how easily someone *could* gain access to...just about anything.

In addition to those points, this bill really feels like the government coming into my house, and even my bedroom (where I keep my gun safe), a place where the government has absolutely no business. Shouldn’t the lock on my front door be enough? Are the police going to periodically come in to check to see if my guns are locked up? Will they bring a minor with a grinder and crow bar to test out how secure my safe really is? While they are here, they should at least check out my liquor cabinet, kitchen knives, and car keys to make sure unsupervised minors could not gain access to them.

Finally, what about times when it is good for an unsupervised minor to gain access to firearms? These are just a few among the first results searching online for, “child shoots burglar”

<https://www.news9.com/story/19858704/12-year-old-girl-shoots-intruder-during-home-invasion>

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/nation-world/ct-alabama-boy-shoots-intruder-20160501-story.html>

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/south-carolina-boy-13-fatally-shoots-burglar-wounds-second-suspect-n462006>

Under this bill, the owner of the firearm that was used to avert a (bigger) tragedy would face a \$5000 fine and 5 years imprisonment because they allowed their children to protect themselves from armed home invaders. Surely, any parent would face jail time to keep their children safe... but in this case it would be ridiculous.