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I am writing to oppose LD 759. I think it should go without saying that safe and responsible gun ownership is in the best interest of all citizens. I oppose this bill because I believe it will single out gun owners with unequal treatment. For example, How many times has there been a fatality resulting from children playing with matches? Are the parents or guardians fined or imprisoned if their children are responsible for a fire related death? From what I could find out about these situations, no charges are filed and the child is referred for counseling.

If a child takes a joy ride in a car and a fatality results, are the parents or guardians of the child fined or imprisoned? A tragic situation like this occurred in Maine just last week, and as of the time of this testimony no parent or guardian has been held criminally responsible.

Irresponsible storage of any potentially dangerous item should receive the same scrutiny whether it is a firearm, an automobile or a pack of matches, but the proponents of this bill have singled out gun owners.

Punishment specifically crafted only against gun owners is unjustified.