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LD 1299

I am writing to express my opposition to LD 1299 An Act to Prohibit the Unsecured Storage of Handguns in Motor Vehicles. LD. 1299 would fine an individual for storing a handgun in a vehicle unless it is in a locked hard sided container and out of view. LD 1299 does not mention locked glove box storage for handguns and LD 1299 does not mandate the storage requirements of any other weapon type. Why would the sponsors of this bill focus exclusively on handgun storage?

LD 1299 exempts law enforcement officers. There seems to be a common theme running through every gun control bill presented recently that exempts law enforcement officers. Why are agents of the government being held to a lower standard than civilians? In November of 2022, it was widely reported that an Augusta, Maine police cruiser was left running and unlocked at the police station with an AR-15 rifle in the cruiser when both the cruiser and rifle were stolen. The individual who stole the cruiser is obviously responsible for the incident but under LD 1299 a civilian having their handgun stolen from a locked vehicle would mandate punishment. I don't see why a civilian gun owner should be held to a higher standard.

LD 1299 is another attempt to punish civilian gun owners while ignoring the actions of criminals. LD 1299 ought not to pass.