

Michael Parker
Strong
LD 1299

April 16, 2025

LD 1299 - An Act to Prohibit the Unsecured Storage of Handguns in Motor Vehicles

Good morning, distinguished members of the Committee on Judiciary. I wish to add my testimony to the record today. My name is Michael Parker. I am a resident of the Town of Strong. I am writing to voice my strong opposition to LD 1299 - An Act to Prohibit the Unsecured Storage of Handguns in Motor Vehicles.

The 2nd Amendment to the Constitution states that the people shall have the right to KEEP and BEAR arms. Thus, we have the right to keep upon and about us a firearm, if we so choose. For most, this means transporting our firearm in our vehicle. At times, a person may find that an establishment does not allow weapons on its premises - so the firearm must be placed in the vehicle. Requiring the use of a locked box for temporary storage (which hinders a thief in no way whatsoever) only causes the owner to be encumbered in the free exercise of their rights. Should they need the firearm, the minutes involved could be minutes they do not have. Again, if stolen, a thief can gain access to a 'hard box' in just a few minutes; it's easy. This takes us once again to, "If they want a gun, they are going to get one". These laws simply place an unnecessary burden on lawful gun owners. Punishing the lawful over the actions of the unlawful is the antithesis of freedom.

Thank you for your willingness to consider my position on this issue. I ask you to vote OUGHT NOT TO PASS on LD 1120 - An Act to Promote the Secure Storage of Firearms.