

EARL BLUMENAUER

THIRD DISTRICT, OREGON

COMMITTEE:
ECONOMIC AND EDUCATIONAL
OPPORTUNITIES



WASHINGTON OFFICE:
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516 S.E. MORRISON STREET
SUITE 250
PORTLAND, OR 97214
(503) 231-2300

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-3703

April 18, 1997

Tom Freedman
Special Assistant to the President for Policy and Planning
213 Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Freedman:

Thank you for taking the time to meet with me earlier this week. I'm sending along a few additional thoughts on the safe storage of guns, and hope to talk with you in a few days by phone to review the status of our efforts.

I am encouraged by President Clinton's eagerness to achieve progress on mandatory gun locks. My legislation on this subject would make it unlawful for a gun owner to leave a weapon where a child can gain access to it. I have also been working with Rep. Schumer and Rep. Millender-McDonald on getting gun lock language included in H.R. 3, the juvenile crime bill being considered in the House Judiciary Committee. Although we were precluded from offering our amendment in committee, we understand the possibility exists to offer gun lock language on the floor of the House of Representatives.

I am also very excited about the progress we're making in our community. I am building a coalition of groups in Portland, Oregon, to encourage greater use of gun locks, lock boxes and overall gun safety. Our coalition, which will have its opening meeting on May 12, is based on a concept pioneered by Harborview Medical Center in Seattle, Washington, and includes hospitals, doctors, nurses, members of law enforcement, local elected officials, and most importantly, the sellers of gun lock boxes. The coalition aims to bring the message of gun lock usage and gun safety to the public through public service announcements and discounts on gun locks and lock boxes.

President Clinton's help and leadership on this issue will be greatly appreciated. I am confident that a majority of the American people believe children and guns do not mix, and gun locks are one way to reduce the horrible annual number of needless gunfire deaths. I look forward to discussing ways in which I can help the President on his initiative. Please feel free to contact me in the future with any other ideas you may have on what we can do to work together on this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Earl", written over a horizontal line.

EARL BLUMENAUER
Member of Congress

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THIRD DISTRICT, OREGON

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