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## **RESPONSIBLE STORAGE**

WHEREAS, unsecured guns may increase the likelihood of crime and violence through an increased risk of gun theft;

WHEREAS, each year, an estimated 200,000 to 500,000 guns are stolen, and many are funneled into the underground market;

WHEREAS, access to unsecured firearms contributes to gun violence among children and teens;

WHEREAS, despite the safety risks, the majority of gun owners do not secure all of their firearms;

WHEREAS, contrary to popular belief, locking devices do not prevent owners from readily accessing their firearms;

WHEREAS, we are all safer when guns are stored unloaded, locked and separate from ammunition.

Sec. 1.

(a) As used in this section:

- (1) “Firearm” means [state code reference].
- (2) “Locked container” means a secure container that is fully enclosed and locked by a padlock, keylock, combination lock, or similar locking device. “Locked container” shall not include the utility or glove compartment of a motor vehicle.
- (3) “Locking device” means a trigger lock or other designed to prevent a firearm from functioning and, when applied to the firearm, renders the firearm inoperable.
- (4) “Unloaded” means without a cartridge
  - (i) in the chamber of the firearm;
  - (ii) in the cylinder of the firearm, if the firearm is a revolver; or
  - (iii) in the magazine of the firearm, if any part of the magazine is in or affixed to the firearm.

(b) It shall be an offense for a person to store or keep any firearm on any premises unless the firearm is:

- (1) Unloaded and in a locked container, or unloaded and affixed with a locking device; or
- (2) carried on the person, or is otherwise in the immediate possession, of an individual in accordance with all applicable laws.

(c) Subsection (b) shall not apply to:

- (1) A firearm stored or kept on premises owned by or under the control of a law enforcement agency.
- (2) A firearm stored or kept on the business premise of federally licensed firearms dealer.

(d) A violation of subsection (b) is punishable by a fine not exceeding \$1,000.