

Date of Testimony: February 11, 2018
Bill Number: Bill HB2042
Testimony by: Prafulla Shintri

In Opposition
Testimony: Written Only

Dear Chairman Bud Estes and the members of the Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs:

I am writing to voice my opposition to the Concealed Carry bill, HB2042.

Growing up, my friend, Pete, a kind person with an easygoing smile, took his own life with his father's shotgun. It shook our entire senior grade in high school and our community. Only after he died did we learn he was suffering from depression. According to Stanford Children's Health, suicide is the third leading cause of death in 15- to 24-year-olds, and one of the strongest risk factors for attempted suicide in youth is depression.

We, as a society, must value life, and one of the ways we value life is not to make it easier for young people to take it. Depression is a manageable disease and if guns are made more readily available, some teenagers may never have a chance to find out.

I ask that you oppose HB2042. Lowering the age of concealed carry to 18 is too great a risk for our young people, our families, and our communities.

Thank you for your consideration,

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