

Memorandum

To: House Judiciary
From: Ken Schatz
Re: Foster Care Regulations and Gun Safety
Date: March 20, 2018

I have been asked to testify about the Department for Children and Families (DCF) requirement for foster parents to securely store firearms. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you.

Under the authority of 33 VSA Section 3501, the Department for Children and Families is responsible for licensing foster homes. Pursuant to that authority, DCF has promulgated Licensing Regulations for Foster Homes in Vermont. With respect to firearms, Regulation 407 provides as follows:

“Any firearm shall be kept in a locked storage space with ammunition stored separately in a locked space, or shall be incapacitated by means of the locking of essential parts of the firearm or the removal and separate locking of such parts.” <http://dcf.vermont.gov/sites/dcf/files/Adoption/Foster-Care-Regs.pdf>

Please contact Karen Vastine (karen.vastine@vermont.gov) should you have additional questions following my testimony regarding the role of DCF and regulating gun safety for foster homes.

