

March 10, 2026

Women's Foundation of Minnesota Supports HF 391 and HF 4075

Chair Moller, Chair Novotny, and members of the Minnesota House Public Safety Committee,

As the President & CEO of the Women's Foundation of Minnesota, I am writing to express our support for HF 391, a bill that improves public safety by enforcing judicially ordered firearms restrictions for individuals identified as abusers, and HF 4075, a comprehensive bill that comes out of the Task Force on Domestic Violence & Firearm Surrender. One specific component we are especially pleased to see is the elimination of the provision allowing for the third-party transfer of an abuser's firearm, a provision that often serves as a loophole to evade legal prohibitions and retain access to the weapon.

We know from our [2026 Status of Women & Girls in Minnesota report](#) that one in three Minnesota women report some form of sexual violence, and one in five Minnesota women report physical violence from an intimate partner at some point in their lifetime. Due to a pervasive reluctance of reporting, these figures are likely just the tip of the iceberg. Nationally, in 2022, just 54% of all domestic violence victimizations were reported to police, and just 21% of sexual assaults.

We support these bills because we strongly believe they will contribute to keeping firearms out of the hands of abusers. From our *Status of Women & Girls* research we know that in 2023 alone, 26 women were killed by a current or former intimate partner in Minnesota. Fifteen of these deaths were carried out with firearms. It is clear that an abuser's access to firearms could mean life or death for any victim in an abusive relationship. According to the *Journal of Public Health*, if an abusive partner has access to a firearm, it significantly increases the danger to domestic violence victims, making it five times more likely that a woman will be killed.

We encourage lawmakers to continue collaborating and working together to find solutions to this increasingly dangerous problem. While we support HF391, we remain committed to seeing a comprehensive package of legislation to combat this issue. We look forward to continuing to work with bill authors and stakeholders to advocate for legislation that we believe will save lives.



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Funding transformative futures  
for women and girls+

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