

**Testimony of Susie Kaufman on HF13**  
**Volunteer with Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America**  
**Minnesota - House Public Safety Committee Hearing**  
**Feb 26, 2025, 3:00PM**

Good afternoon Chair Novotny, Committee members, and staff. Thank you for reading my testimony.

I am Susie Kaufman. I have lived in St Louis Park, Minnesota for almost 10 years. My husband and I have two children, who attend public elementary and middle school in St Louis Park.

I am providing this testimony today because HF 13 is a dangerous gun bill that would create dangerous and deadly situations that could be avoided.

While I understand and appreciate the importance of self-defense, I also understand that common values dictate that it is best to avoid killing another person if possible. Minnesota's current self-defense law does not prohibit a person from using deadly force if necessary, but it does require a person to take alternate action outside their home if they can do so safely. There is no reason to change this law.

Nationally, we have seen the deadly consequences of people who have used this concept of "shoot first." When people can shoot first and ask questions later, we create a society of vigilantes who are encouraged to use deadly force as a first resort.

As a mother of young children and a citizen concerned about the proliferation of guns, I have grave concerns about creating a society where gun owners can fire their weapons indiscriminately and claim later that they felt threatened. Data shows that many gun owners do not fire accurately when under duress, which can also lead to innocent bystanders as unintended victims. It is also clear from numerous instances in other states that "good guys with guns" do not effectively stop bad guys with guns.

***I urge you to stop this bill from advancing and to vote against HF 13. Please retain all current provisions of Minnesota's traditional self-defense law, a legal doctrine which has protected people for centuries.***

This concludes my written testimony. Thank you.

