

Chairwoman Moller and committee members -

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before the committee regarding HF 396. I am writing to testify in opposition of the bill.

After a quick reading of this proposed legislation there are two primary concerns that I have.

First, this bill repeals an existing law 609.666, that appears to serve the same purpose as this bill.

Second, and probably most importantly, Subdivision 1 “requires a firearm to be stored unloaded with a locking device and separately from its ammunition.” This appears to be a close match to the law challenged at the US Supreme Court in DC v Heller which the opinion states:

“We must also address the District’s requirement (as applied to respondent’s handgun) that firearms in the home be rendered and kept inoperable at all times. This makes it impossible for citizens to use them for the core lawful purpose of self-defense and is hence unconstitutional.”

Thank you for your time and consideration in opposing HF 396.

Benjamin Pratt
Law Abiding Gun Owner