

Letter from Anya Stupar and Sreya Subramanian  
Volunteers from Students Demand Action for Gun Sense in America  
February 29th, 2024, 10:30 AM

Dear Chairman Moller, Committee Members, and staff,

Thank you for taking the time to read our letter today. Our names are Anya Stupar and Sreya Subramanian, and we are seniors at Mounds View High School in Arden Hills.

We are writing today in support of HF601, creating a requirement that gun owners alert law enforcement if their firearms are ever lost or stolen. Lost and stolen firearms are often used in or end up in the hands of those who mean to harm themselves or others.

We are the founders of a Students Demand Action chapter at our high school. We began this chapter at the beginning of this school year in September because every student deserves to feel safe at school. At a high school close to ours, guns have been brought onto campus multiple times this school year; this has impacted high school students in our own community and their sense of safety. In our everyday lives, we as students should not need to fear for our safety while trying to pursue education; we should not need constant lockdown drills or endless debates about school security, but to us, that has become our life and our reality. We want something different for the students who come after us.

Our experience leads us to emphasize that the passage of this bill would be a huge step toward keeping our schools and communities safe. A 2017 investigation found that the majority of stolen firearms recovered by police were recovered in connection with crimes, including over 1,500 violent acts. The passage of this bill could help to reduce crimes such as these, and in turn create a safer society for us all.

We encourage members of the committee to vote YES on HF601. Thank you for taking the time to read our letter today!

Sincerely,

Anya and Sreya  
Mounds View High School