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Dear House Judiciary Finance and Civil Law committee,

On behalf of our more than 3,100 current and future family physician members, the Minnesota Academy of Family Physicians calls on Minnesota policymakers to take meaningful steps to protect our patients and communities by passing HF 14 and HF 15 to address the public health epidemic caused by firearms death and injury.

It is unacceptable that on average ninety-six Americans are killed every day with a gun and that at least twice that number are injured. As physicians, the members of MAFP are committed to addressing the gun violence epidemic and encouraging our communities to work together to find meaningful solutions to ensure that guns do not fall into the hands of those who wish to harm themselves or others, while respecting safe and responsible gun ownership. Measures such as criminal background checks on all purchases and transfers/exchanges of firearms and extreme risk protective orders, that allow family members a mechanism to temporarily remove firearms if there is a concern that an individual will harm themselves or someone else, are common sense gun violence prevention measures that are overwhelmingly supported by Minnesotans.

Thank you for hearing these and other measures to address gun violence. We look forward to engaging with you and your colleagues and appreciate our shared commitment to the health of Minnesotans.

Sincerely,



Alexis Vosooney, MD
President, MAFP