

Dear Members of the House Public Safety Committee

I am writing with my deepest dread regarding HF3433 and HF3402. These bills would be the most sweeping criminal possession laws in the history of our state, turning the greatest number of people into felons, more than any other Minnesota law. The firearms and magazines criminalized by these bills are owned by hundreds of thousands, probably millions, of law-abiding Minnesotans.

Gun violence is a problem in Minnesota. Nearly all gun deaths in Minnesota are from handguns, and approximately two-thirds of deaths are suicides. HF3433 and HF3402 will not address those issues. Nor will HF3433 and HF3402 address deeply entrenched social problems, mental health problems, or internet-fueled nihilism that are the root causes of gun violence.

Thankfully, your colleagues proposed many good bills that would make a positive difference in public safety without transforming hundreds of thousands of Minnesotans into felons: Minnesota should require gun owners to promptly report lost or stolen firearms to police (HF1757). Privately manufactured firearms (“ghost guns”) should have serial numbers for law enforcement and prosecutors to track these firearms (HF3407). Binary triggers are inherently dangerous, not commonly used, and have no historical analog per *Bruen* (HF3368). There are valid public safety arguments for prohibiting firearms at the State Capitol, just as we do in courthouses (HF3357). And the Department of Health should have an Office of Gun Violence Prevention (SF513). Reasonable people can agree on these laws without criminalizing broad swaths of the public. In this testimony, I am noting specific areas of compromise and providing rationales for why compromise is necessary.

HF3433 and HF3402 have major problems. HF3433 focuses on cosmetic features that do not impact the lethality of firearm; HF3433 does not distinguish between centerfire and rimfire firearms; HF3433 calls magazines “clips” and calls suppressors “silencers.” Regarding HF3402, gun owners know that standard pistols magazines hold between 13 and 19 rounds. (For that reason, a 20-round magazine capacity limit would much more closely align with the millions of handguns that Minnesotans have legally purchased since 2004.) These oversights and errors impact how legal gun owners view these bills. We feel the same way that some Committee Members might feel when politicians try to ban abortions after six weeks of gestation – it just doesn’t make sense.

There are many parallels between firearm rights and abortion rights. Lawful Minnesota gun owners are seeing officials unfamiliar with firearms attempt to severely restrict guns. We are having the same visceral feeling that people who support abortion rights feel when anti-choice politicians try to restrict women’s access to reproductive medicine despite being totally unfamiliar with the most basic aspects of women’s health or human reproduction.

It is bizarre that the Minnesota legislature is choosing this moment in Minnesota history to vastly expand the power of the government to control and criminalize the lives of citizens. We’ve experienced the terror of government overreach and intrusion during the past two months. Alex Pretti would be a felon under these proposed laws, because Alex had standard-capacity magazines that came standard with the handgun he legally purchased. Alex’s standard-capacity magazines would give the government one more excuse to kill him. Thankfully, decent people are now talking about the importance of everybody respecting everybody’s rights. We are talking about the right

to free speech, to assembly, the right to counsel, and the right to due process. We also are talking about the government's threat to our rights to bear arms and our right to be free from government searches and seizures – rights directly impacted by HF3433.

Mental health and substance abuse are major contributing factors to gun violence. Minnesota should work to address mental health and gun safety simultaneously. In 2023, I risked my professional reputation as an attorney to speak publicly about my own mental health and substance abuse struggles. I made that decision because I wanted to help Minnesotans who were suffering. Governor Walz appointed me to the Minnesota Psychedelic Medicine Task Force where I advocated for more tools to help people who are suffering from mental health disorders. I am proud to now help Representative Andy Smith advance HF2906, and I am willing to be a bridge to law enforcement leaders and prosecutors who might have public safety concerns with HF2906.

I'm similarly speaking now regarding HF3433 and HF3402. I don't want to see hundreds of thousands of Minnesotans become felons for gun restrictions that will not have a significant impact on gun violence in our state. These possession laws will have an outsized impact on poor, uneducated, and marginalized people – because possession laws **always** disparately impacted those groups during American history. And I will advocate for everybody's rights, because rights only work when everybody respects each other's rights. That includes reproductive rights, the right to same-sex marriage, unfettered rights to vote, right to join a labor union, and, yes, the right to possess common firearms and magazines that are owned by tens of millions of other Americans.

Thank you for reading this testimony. I know you care very deeply about Minnesotans, and I know you are also very busy. I am happy to speak with any of you, and I'm happy to do additional research or other work to support our shared goal of a safer and healthier Minnesota.

Thank you,

Adam Tomczik
651-328-9635

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my opposition to both HF3433 and HF3402. I have only ever voted for DFL candidates, but I am starting to be concerned by the fixation the party has on implementing ineffective gun control. If this were a bill with stronger wording on who is eligible to obtain a permit to purchase, I would be in favor of it. As a liberal who voted democrat, there are other issues that need attention.

Starting with HF3402, a ban on magazine size does nothing to keep anyone safer and is simply political theater. Carrying more 10 round magazines vs carrying fewer 30 round magazines will not deter a person who wants to inflict harm and the ease that a new 10 round magazine can be inserted at does not slow down the rate of injury they can cause. It is simply not effective. This bill would force me to choose between losing several thousand dollars with no avenue for reimbursement or living as a felon for some security theater.

HF3433... federal agents just executed two Minnesotans without due process, in the street, in cold blood. Federal agents are abducting and deporting legal citizens without due process against court order. We are on the verge of a federally controlled Gestapo, and you want to disarm the state? Pardon my language but, are you insane? They are taking people, they are killing people, they are ignoring the checks on their authority, and you want to take away the teeth we may need in the near future? I in no way wish for violence to occur, but it seems like we are very close to having violence forced on us. After Alex Pretti was shot, I purchased my first semi-automatic sporting rifle. I am terrified of the prospect of having to use it to protect myself or another Minnesotan. I am more terrified of not having the option.

Do not pass HF3433 or HF3402. Do not hand the state over to ICE and DHS, that is all this will accomplish. I used to think folks who thought they needed to be armed to prevent tyranny were a bit nutty. I guess I am nutty now because we need a well-regulated militia.

Alan Mickelson

Alex Carlson
St Paul MN
2/22/2026

Subject: Constituent Concerns Regarding Second Amendment Rights and Self-Defense

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you today as a law-abiding constituent and a registered voter to express my firm support for the Second Amendment and the individual right to self-defense. As a citizen who has undergone the necessary background checks and training to obtain a permit to carry, I believe it is vital that our legislation continues to protect the rights of those who take personal responsibility for their safety.

I currently carry a 9mm semi-automatic firearm with a 15-round magazine. This choice is based on a practical need for reliability and sufficient capacity to address potential threats in an unpredictable world. Capacity limits or restrictive carry laws do not hinder criminals; they only disadvantage responsible citizens like myself and others, such as Alex Pretti, who seek to operate within the bounds of the law to protect ourselves and our communities.

The Second Amendment is the constitutional backbone that ensures the right to life is supported by the right to protect it. When law-abiding citizens are empowered to carry, we serve as a deterrent to crime and provide a critical layer of defense in the minutes before law enforcement can arrive. Restricting the tools or the legality of concealed carry only creates "soft targets" and undermines the safety of our neighborhoods.

The Maplewood Mall shooting today is a perfect example of why we should not only protect the 2nd amendment right to self defense, but expand it with stand-your-ground. Forcing someone who can protect others to retreat only serves to make those legally carrying look guilty and potentially put their life at risk. The Maplewood Mall is a "gun free zone", and that is very obviously not working. It only makes someone like me feel less safe to be there.

I ask that you oppose any legislation that seeks to limit magazine capacity, infringe upon the rights of permit holders, or create unnecessary hurdles for those seeking to exercise their constitutional right to bear arms. Instead, I encourage you to support policies that uphold the standard of self-defense and recognize the value of the "good guy with a gun."

Thank you for your time and for your service to our district. I look forward to hearing your position on how you plan to protect the Second Amendment rights of your constituents.

Sincerely,
Alex Carlson

To: Ellen.McDaniel@house.mn.gov

Subject: Written testimony regarding HF 3433 - Semi-Automatic Rifle Ban and HF 3402 - Total Ban on Possession of Magazines holding more than 10 rounds

I am a former Law Enforcement officer, current NRA Law Enforcement Firearms Instructor, and current Minnesota State Certified Carry Permit Instructor. It is my opinion that the proposed legislation to ban commonly owned semi-automatic firearms and commonly owned magazines will have no effect on making Minnesota safer. It will however have an adverse effect on the honest, law abiding, good and moral citizens of Minnesota. Criminal do not go through the process of getting a carry permit, they still carry guns. And if the you ban these commonly owned items, the criminals will not surrender them. I have regular contact with hundreds of good citizens every year who go through the process of legally obtaining a carry permit. Many of those folks will comply with your proposed legislation and will be less able to deal with criminal violence. However, many will become felons because of this legislation even though they are good and moral people. I urge you to consider the true impact of this proposal and do not allow it to become law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "A. D. Miller". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "A" and "M".

Allen Dale Miller

Howard Lake, MN 55349

Written Testimony in Opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402

Submitted by: Andrew Barclay

City: Oakdale, Minnesota

Date: February 22, 2026

Submitted to: House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee

My name is Andrew Barclay and I am a constituent in Oakdale, Minnesota. I am submitting this testimony to express my firm opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402.

I am a law-abiding gun owner who takes that responsibility seriously. I invest in proper storage, train regularly, and carry lawfully. In all my years of ownership, I have never been a danger to anyone in my community. The only thing these bills would change is that the state would reclassify me as a felon for possessing the same firearms and magazines I have owned safely and legally for years.

I want this committee to examine whether the data supports the premise of these bills.

The United States is in the middle of the largest decline in violent crime in recorded history. Homicides in major cities fell 21% in 2025. The national homicide rate is projected to reach its lowest point in over 125 years. FBI-designated active shooter incidents dropped 50% in 2024, and mass killings from those incidents dropped 80%. Gun assaults fell 22%. If the justification for restricting a constitutional right is public safety, the data should show a public safety crisis, but it is evident that it shows the opposite.

HF 3433 targets rifles. According to the FBI, rifles of all types are involved in just 4% of gun homicides nationally. More Americans are killed each year by hands, fists, and feet than by rifles of any kind. Mass shootings — the emotional engine behind this bill — represent only 1% of all gun violence per Brady United, a gun control advocacy group. This bill would turn hundreds of thousands of law-abiding Minnesotans into felons over a statistically negligible category of gun violence.

HF 3402 bans all magazines over ten rounds with no grandfathering. There are 717 million such magazines in the United States — 74% of all magazines in circulation. This is not specialty equipment. It is the standard configuration of virtually every modern handgun sold in America. This bill would criminalize the majority of handgun owners in Minnesota for simply possessing the magazine their firearm came with from the factory.

Consider who these bills actually target. According to Minnesota BCA data, only 1% of permit holders have committed any crime at all — and of that one percent, only 2% involved a firearm. These bills would turn law-abiding gun owners into felons. Meanwhile, violent offenders remain untouched. In nearly half of all cases where mandatory minimum sentences are applied for actual gun crimes, judges chose to depart from the sentence. The state is asking to create new criminals out of responsible citizens while going easy on the violent offenders who actually cause harm.

Written Testimony in Opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402

Submitted by: Andrew Barclay

City: Oakdale, Minnesota

Date: February 22, 2026

Submitted to: House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee

Illinois passed a similar ban in 2023 and saw compliance of only 3 to 5%, meaning the vast majority of affected gun owners did not comply. The law did not disarm dangerous people or reduce violence, but instead created hundreds of thousands of technical felons, living in legal jeopardy and subject to selective enforcement at the government's discretion. I ask this committee, if the closest comparable law in another state was disregarded by 95% of the people it targeted, what reason is there to believe the outcome would be different in Minnesota and what does that say about the bills' ability to accomplish the stated goal?

I urge this committee to reject HF 3433 and HF 3402. The data presented above does not support the premise of these bills. Violent crime is declining at a historic rate. The weapons targeted by these bills only account for a fraction of gun deaths. These bills ask hundreds of thousands of responsible, law-abiding Minnesotans to accept felony status for exercising a constitutional right.

How my representatives vote on this issue will determine how I vote on them. I hope this committee chooses to stand with the data, the Constitution, and the law-abiding citizens of Minnesota who have done nothing wrong.

Respectfully,



Andrew Barclay

Oakdale, Minnesota

Dear members of the House Public Safety Committee,

I am writing in strong opposition to proposed House bills HF3402 (“Possession of large-capacity ammunition magazines banned”) and HF3433 (“Possession of semiautomatic military-style assault weapons banned, and criminal penalties provided”). The proposed bill unduly restricts the rights of millions of law-abiding gun owners in Minnesota. It also does nothing to address the underlying causes of gun violence that plagues our State, including a public mental health crisis, and violent and extreme political and social media rhetoric that foster such behavior. There is no doubt that a sensible desire to protect Minnesotans from violence is motivating these bills. But that understandable motivation does not excuse the bills’ overreach.

I would never have thought to write such a letter in opposition to proposed gun-control laws before about a year ago. I am a 49-year-old staunch progressive, who used to express unthinking support for strict gun laws of this sort. But I also am an attorney and career prosecutor with well over a decade of experience in prosecuting violent crime; I intimately understand the impact of gun violence on Minnesota residents. And I live in downtown St. Paul, one half block from where Carrie Kwok, a beloved local artist, was shot and killed in an alleyway in September 2024, while painting a mural that reminds me several times a week of how senselessly dangerous it can be to live there. My experience and background led me to the ultimate conclusion that Americans are resigned to two fates, both of which are equally susceptible to gun violence: one, we chose to remain unarmed potential victims; or two, one we choose to exercise the Second Amendment rights enshrined in the United States and Minnesota Constitutions to defend ourselves and our loved ones. I chose the latter path, because I refuse to be a victim who has not at least prepared to defend myself against the random and wanton violence that is all-too common in our streets.

So, in February of 2025, I purchased my first firearm: a 9-millimeter pistol. I subsequently purchased three more pistols for various potential self- and home-defense purposes. I have a permit to carry and train at a shooting range regularly. All but one of the magazines that I own for those pistols would become illegal with the passage of this bill. One of the pistols would also become a banned “semi-automatic military-style assault weapon” under HF3433, because its factory installed barrel has threading to fit a suppressor (which the bill inaccurately labels a “silencer”), which I do not own. These bills would directly undermine my efforts to protect myself and others.

The breadth of the impact this bill would have on Minnesotans is also staggering. Recent estimates indicate that over 42% of (or nearly 1 million) Minnesota households lawfully own at least one firearm. Approximately, 400,000 Minnesotans currently possess a valid permit to carry a firearm. Virtually all magazines sold for the most commonly owned defensive pistols accept more than ten rounds of ammunition, turning a huge percentage of lawful Minnesota gun

owners into potential felons with one stroke of the pen. Meanwhile, the bills will do nothing to reduce the numbers of large capacity magazines in the greater marketplace; one need only travel across the border to Wisconsin, Iowa, North Dakota, or South Dakota to purchase an untracked large capacity magazine. Nor will the bills influence criminogenic behavior. For example, it is already unlawful to possess a semi-automatic pistol that has an easily 3D-printed “switch” installed converting it to fire automatically; that law has done nothing to limit the frequency that such guns are possessed and employed by criminals on the streets of Minnesota.

These bills will also have a disproportionately negative impact on citizens of marginalized communities who are at greater risk of being victimized by gun violence. I encourage the Committee to read and consider the amicus brief filed on behalf of several minority action groups opposing the State of Rhode Island’s recent similar law banning large capacity magazines. *See Brief for the National African American Gun Association, Inc., et. al., as Amicus Curiae, Ocean State Tactical, LLC v. Rhode Island*, No. 24-131, 145 S.Ct. 2771, writ denied, June 2, 2025. I also note that amicus brief succinctly outlines an argument against the large capacity magazine bill constituting an unconstitutional taking under the Fifth Amendment, a position that I also join, having spent considerable sums of money on legal magazines with capacities from 13 rounds on up. *See id.* at 25-26.

In short, HF3402 and HF3433 will criminalize the behavior of hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of law-abiding Minnesota gun-owners, but will not significantly deter the behavior of people who already disregard existing gun laws. Instead, I encourage the committee to focus on other proposed bills that would have a positive impact on public safety: requiring gun owners to promptly report lost or stolen firearms to police (HF1757); requiring all firearms, including privately manufactured firearms (“ghost guns”), to be marked with serial numbers to enable law enforcement and prosecutors to track them (HF3407); prohibiting binary triggers, which are inherently dangerous, not commonly used, and have no historical analog per *Bruen* (HF3368); prohibiting firearms at the State Capitol, just as we do in courthouses (HF3357); and creating an Office of Gun Violence Prevention at the Department of Health (SF513).

I am happy to answer any questions you may have about my testimony or position on these proposed bills. Please feel free to contact me at the number below.

Sincerely,

Andrew W. Johnson
St. Paul, MN
715-432-4483

Opposition Testimony on HF 3402 and HF 3433

Chair, Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on **HF 3402** and **HF 3433**. I respectfully oppose both proposals.

General Principles

I support public safety and efforts to reduce violent crime. But laws must be evidence-based, constitutional, and fair to law-abiding residents. These bills fail on all those grounds and would unfairly penalize responsible Minnesotans without contributing meaningfully to public safety.

Opposition to HF 3402 — Magazine Ban

HF 3402 would ban possession of *large-capacity ammunition magazines* capable of holding more than 10 rounds.

Concerns:

- **Penalizes Law-Abiding Citizens:** The ban applies to magazines owned by responsible citizens but does nothing to deter criminals who will ignore the law. Thousands of Minnesotans use higher-capacity magazines for lawful hunting, sport shooting, self-defense, and competition. Forcing destruction, surrender, or removal from the state by a deadline is punitive and burdensome.
- **Lacks a Clear Safety Benefit:** There is no evidence that similar bans significantly reduce violence. Criminals who commit shootings often use illegal firearms and will not comply with magazine restrictions, meaning the law disproportionately affects law-abiding owners. This raises concerns about the law's effectiveness in preventing harm.
- **Second Amendment and Due Process:** A blanket ban on commonly owned firearm accessories raises constitutional concerns under *Bruen* and related cases, which protect arms "in common use" for lawful purposes.

Opposition to HF 3433 — Semi-Automatic Rifle Ban

HF 3433 would prohibit possession of semiautomatic rifles broadly defined as "military-style assault weapons."

Concerns:

- **Overbroad and Vague Definitions:** The term “military-style” is imprecise and would sweep in rifles that millions of Americans legally own for sport, hunting, and self-defense. Banning these based on cosmetic or mechanical features does not meaningfully target the tools most often used in violent crime.
- **Unworkable and Unfair Transition Requirements:** The bill places burdensome requirements on current owners without feasible pathways for compliance. Requiring registration, storage inspections, and restricting lawful use locations (e.g., range only) intrudes on individual privacy and raises due process concerns.
- **Inequitable Enforcement:** Communities with high rates of lawful firearm ownership would be disproportionately affected, creating uncertainty for families, hunters, and sportsmen who have complied with existing laws for decades.

Impact on Law-Abiding Minnesotans

Both bills undermine trust between citizens and government by treating lawful behavior as criminal. Responsible firearm owners take safety seriously; existing laws already penalize misuse and violent conduct. These new mandates would impose criminal penalties on individuals who have broken no laws and pose no threats to public safety.

Conclusion

I urge this Committee to **vote no** on HF 3402 and HF 3433. Rather than enacting broad bans that primarily burden law-abiding Minnesotans, policymakers should pursue public safety initiatives that focus on violence prevention, enforcement against offenders, and evidence-based strategies that respect constitutional rights.

Thank you for your consideration.

Andrew Wolfram

16926 Blind Lake Trail SE, Prior Lake, Minnesota

I am writing today to voice my opposition to HF-3433 Semiautomatic Rifle Ban that is being proposed in the Minnesota legislature. This bill is blatantly unconstitutional from every angle. I'm sure you've heard this before, but it bears repeating. The Supreme Court has already ruled that arms "in common use" cannot be banned. Semi-automatic rifles are most certainly commonly used for many lawful purposes. There are more civilian owned AR15s than Ford F-150s (the most popular truck in the country.) Additionally, the Supreme Court has ruled that in order for a "gun control law" to become law, it has to be consistent with the history and tradition of arms ownership, specifically relating to restrictions that existed at the time of writing/ratifying the 2nd Amendment. There were no bans on any type of arms at the time the 2nd Amendment was written.

Calling semi-automatic rifles "military style" is misleading, disingenuous, and subjective since the basis for this ban is purely cosmetic. The arms in question may "look scary" to a few people, but they are certainly not "military" weapons, as no military in the world issues semi-automatic rifles to their soldiers. As for calling them "assault weapons," it is absurd that the authors of this bill believe that inanimate pieces of metal and plastic have the capacity to assault, or take any other kind of action against anyone.

The "grandfathering" clause, which would require registration/licensing per weapon, is illegal because it is against federal law for the state to maintain a list of gun owners and what weapons they own. Also alarming is that the bill says there will be a fee, (applicable per weapon,) yet the bill does not set what that fee would be. Either way, that would be considered a "poll tax," which I'm sure you know is a tax on the exercise of a Constitutional right, and is therefore, unconstitutional.

The "safe storage" portion of the bill, while it has yet to be detailed, is dangerous at best. It is not the government's responsibility, nor do they have the authority, to dictate how gun owners store their arms in the privacy of their own homes. There is no blanket solution to "safe storage." What may work for some, may not work for others. The most egregious part of the "safe storage" part is that we would have to allow law enforcement into our homes at any time, without a warrant, to inspect our storage system. That violates the 4th Amendment as well as the 2nd. A common theme in the anti-gun movement is that firearms must be locked up, unloaded, with the ammunition locked in a separate location from the firearm itself. This is a dangerous precedent and it will cost some good people their lives when they are unable to defend themselves during a home invasion and they do not have time to open 2 different safes in 2 different rooms before protecting their lives or the lives of their loved ones.

The thought that lawfully owned private property could not be transferred to family members upon death of an individual is sickening. Heirlooms that may have been in a family for

generations would be stolen by the state, which is unlawful seizure of property, and therefore a violation of the Constitution.

The list of “features” that would render a semi-automatic rifle as “illegal” in the bill are almost all safety features of these rifles. A pistol grip, protruding grip for the non-trigger hand, folding or telescoping stock, a barrel shroud, a threaded barrel that could accommodate a suppressor; all of these are features that enhance the safe handling of these rifles. These features should all be standard equipment on rifles; not arbitrary, lame excuses to ban them.

The worst part about this bill is the willful ignorance and blatant lies being told to support the purpose of the bill. The bill is being presented as a measure to prevent crime and make communities safer. It will do neither. The only people that will be affected by this bill are lawful gun owners. Violent criminals will not turn in their semi-automatic rifles. Violent criminals will not register their semi-automatic rifles. Violent criminals will not be storing their arms in accordance to whatever means is deemed proper once it is established by the BCA. Violent criminals will not be affected whatsoever by this bill. This bill, if enacted into law, will turn millions of lawful, peaceful, Minnesotans into felons overnight; not because they break a law, but merely because the date changes.

This bill is unconstitutional, immoral, dangerous, and a slap in the face to all lawful Minnesota gun owners. I strongly oppose this bill, and demand that it be voted down.

Sincerely,

Andy Paroczai

Dear Committee Members,

My name is Art Tyszka, a resident of Plymouth, Minnesota. As a law-abiding gun owner, collector, and avid sport shooter who competes in USPSA matches and a local league, I am deeply concerned about HF 3433 and HF 3402. I urge you to reject these bills, which represent a direct assault on my Second Amendment rights and those of countless Minnesotans.

HF 3433's sweeping ban on semi-automatic rifles, with its limited grandfathering and prohibition on transfers, would criminalize the firearms I legally own and use for recreation and self-defense. Similarly, HF 3402's outright ban on magazines over 10 rounds, without grandfathering, forces me to destroy, surrender, or remove property I've responsibly acquired. These measures would devastate my hobbies and investments, turning me and hundreds of thousands of law-abiding citizens into felons overnight.

Importantly, these laws will do nothing to enhance public safety. Criminals, by definition, ignore laws—they will continue to obtain and use prohibited items through illegal means. History shows that such restrictions only burden the compliant, leaving communities no safer while eroding constitutional protections.

Please stand for our rights and vote no on HF 3433 and HF 3402.

Sincerely,

Art Tyszka

To: House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee

From: Arun S. Madhavan, Saint Paul Resident

Date: February 24, 2026

Subject: Opposition to HF 3402 (Magazine Ban) and HF 3433 (Semiautomatic Ban)

Members of the Committee,

My name is Arun Madhavan. I am a resident of Saint Paul, and I am writing to express my strong opposition to HF 3402 and HF 3433.

As a law-abiding gun owner and a member of the Saint Paul community, I am deeply concerned by the broad and punitive nature of these bills. Specifically regarding HF 3402, this legislation would classify the possession of standard-capacity magazines—the most common equipment for modern self-defense—as a felony. Many of the most popular handguns used for personal protection, such as the Springfield Hellcat Pro, the Glock 19, and the Sig Sauer P320, are designed to hold more than ten rounds.

Because this bill lacks a grandfather clause, it would instantly turn thousands of responsible, law-abiding Minnesotans into felons overnight for possessing standard equipment they already own and rely on for their own safety. The suggestion that citizens can simply "turn in" their property assumes a level of awareness of shifting legislative minutiae that is both unrealistic and an onerous burden. Expecting every resident to be scrupulously aware of new technical definitions under threat of a felony is an unreasonable expectation of the public.

I want to be clear: the inclusion of a "grandfather clause" would still not make this bill acceptable. This legislation effectively ends the ability of future generations of Minnesotans to possess the most effective tools for their own defense. It creates a convoluted legal landscape where otherwise identical citizens are treated differently based solely on when they acquired their equipment, while doing nothing to address the root causes of violence.

Furthermore, I am concerned that the enforcement of a magazine ban will lead to disparate impacts on communities of color. These communities are often less likely to be aware of rapid changes in firearm statutes and are more likely to have these items "discovered" during unrelated police interactions. We have already seen how legal carry can be tragically misunderstood by law enforcement, as in the case of Alex Pretti, who was shot by federal agents last month while legally armed with a Sig P320. Mr. Pretti's firearm can accommodate 15, 17, 21, and 30-round magazines. Under HF 3402, a peaceful citizen in a similar situation—even if acting entirely within the law and exercising their First

Amendment rights—could face life-altering felony charges simply for the capacity of their magazines.

Additionally, this bill creates a dangerous double standard by exempting law enforcement. Allowing police to carry high-capacity handguns that are strictly inaccessible to the public constitutes a further militarization of the police, widening the gap between the state's law enforcement and the people it serves.

Finally, HF 3433 places an undue burden on law-abiding citizens through its registration and storage requirements, treating common sporting and defensive firearms as inherently suspect.

I urge the committee to respect the civil liberties of Minnesotans and the "common use" standard of the Second Amendment by voting NO on HF 3402 and HF 3433.

Sincerely,

Arun S. Madhavan

Saint Paul, MN

Dear Members of the Legislature,

I am writing as a concerned resident of Minnesota to respectfully express my opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402 as well as any other proposed bans on commonly owned semi-automatic firearms, standard-capacity magazines, or similar legislation.

While I understand that these bills may be intended to promote public safety, I am deeply concerned that their practical effect would be to create greater uncertainty and legal risk for law-abiding gun owners who rely on their Second Amendment rights for personal protection. In today's tense and polarized political climate, marginalized communities such as the LGBTQ community and racial and ethnic minorities are particularly vulnerable.

On a personal level, I moved from Arkansas to Minnesota last year because I did not feel safe continuing to live in a state that was targeting my right to exist. As a member of the LGBTQ community, my options for safe states to live in are limited, and they continue to dwindle. One of the major reasons I chose to move to Minnesota is that, unlike many other "safe" states, Minnesota has thus far recognized that responsible gun ownership is a key part of personal safety. Many marginalized individuals face unique and well-documented threats including harassment, hate crimes, and targeted violence. For some, lawful firearm ownership is not a political statement but a deeply personal safety decision. Measures that expand restrictions, increase administrative burdens, or introduce ambiguous compliance standards can place responsible gun owners at risk of falling afoul of complex regulations despite acting in good faith.

When laws are unclear, rapidly changing, or subject to broad interpretation, marginalized communities will often feel the greatest anxiety about whether they will be treated fairly in enforcement. The possibility of inconsistent application or bureaucratic delays in obtaining, renewing, or maintaining lawful ownership can leave vulnerable individuals feeling exposed rather than protected.

Public safety policy should focus on violent offenders and those who misuse firearms, not on adding layers of uncertainty for law-abiding citizens who have completed requisite background checks and taken steps to protect themselves responsibly and legally. Any legislation in this area must carefully balance community safety with the fundamental rights and legitimate self-defense concerns of all residents, including marginalized Minnesotans.

I urge you to reconsider HF 3433 and HF 3402 in their current form and to work toward solutions that enhance safety without placing additional burdens or uncertainty on responsible, law-abiding gun owners.

Thank you for your time and your service to our state.

Sincerely,
August Gant

To whom it may concern,

I write to oppose the proposed bans on semi-automatic rifles and standard capacity magazines. These firearms are in common use by thousands of law-abiding Minnesotans for target shooting, hunting, and self-defense. A ban would force lawful residents to surrender their civil rights, leave the state, or become felons.

The provisions allowing unwarranted law enforcement visits are particularly concerning. Following recent events, this approach is tone-deaf considering the current situation Minnesotans are facing and will certainly disproportionately impact low income and minority communities. These unnecessary encounters would also risk endangering citizens and officers alike.

Furthermore, these proposals violate the Second Amendment's strict limits on government power. The resulting constitutional challenges will waste taxpayer money.

I implore you to please focus your efforts this session on addressing issues that will have true benefits to Minnesotans such as the housing, energy, and food affordability crises, expanding mental health access, and defending Minnesotan's rights rather than restricting them.

The second amendment is a civil right belonging to all people regardless of age, race, gender, creed, or orientation. It is the bulwark that protects all other rights.

Thank you,
Austin Harris
St. Paul, MN

Hello I am a MN resident and strongly oppose all the following bills.

House Bills (in Public Safety Finance and Policy):

- HF 3434
- HF 3433
- HF 2449

Senate Bills (in Judiciary and Public Safety as of 2/19):

- SF 3681
- SF 3655
- SF 3654

I am opposed for multiple reasons but I want to start off with the state of our country. I will give background that I am married to a wonder Hmong woman and have 3 daughters with her. And still today she is carrying her passport and we have talked about her not bringing our daughters to certain places alone due to concern of being taken by the federal government (she is a US citizen born in CA). So that fear is real, and once again brings to the forefront taking away the citizens right to protection from the government is crazy.

I also believe that these laws will do nothing to stop crime in our cities, quite the opposite. It will create a playground where bad actors can mug, rob, and murder without concern that regular people can defend themselves. We have seen this clearly in places like Chicago, San Fransico, New York, etc. Banning guns from law abiding citizens just increases murder and violent crime rates. It creates a place where only bad actors have the power where police are understaffed and cannot respond in reasonable times in most of the state.

And I will note that many of these proposed bills also are not based in knowledge of firearms but knee jerk bills. If these were actually bills to impact firearms that are used in most crime it would go after small concealable pistols not longarms. But the bills leave small concealable firearms, which are used in more than 90% of violent crimes involving firearms, as the only thing untouch and the only option to purchase or own.

Thank you for your time. And please remember a quote from **George Orwell- "That rifle hanging on the wall of the working class flat or laborer's cottage is the symbol of democracy. It is our job to see it stays there."**

Thank you,

Benjamin Jensen, Oak Grove MN

I'm reaching out to give my written testimony **against** both bills being proposed this Tuesday. Those bills are:

- HF 3433: A ban on the possession of most semi-automatic rifles
- HF 3402: A total ban on the possession of magazines holding more than ten rounds

I'm writing to you as a Minnesotan who is increasingly tired of the active attack on the Second Amendment. Our constitutional rights are always under attack, and it must stop.

I'm a competitive shooter who is one of the top USPSA shooters in Minnesota, and also ranked nationally in the US. If these bills were to pass, it would completely decimate the competitive shooting and action shooting scene in the state of Minnesota. The action shooting sports are going strong in Minnesota, and these bills would directly impact the thousands who travel here every year to compete, but most importantly, the residents of Minnesota who live here and participate lawfully in utilizing their Second Amendment rights.

The action shooting sports are diverse and are one of the best ways to introduce firearm safety and education to kids and adults, bar none. My fellow competitors, whom I interact with on a weekly/monthly basis, come from many different walks of life and hold varying political views, on which we don't always see eye to eye. The one thing we all hold in common is the absolute need to uphold our Second Amendment and constitutional rights, no matter who is in office. This is not a left vs. right issue. It's a fundamental rights issue.

To address HF 3402 directly, this bill is trying to redefine standard capacity magazines as "high capacity" magazines holding more than 10 rounds, which is nonsensical. Magazines holding more than 10 rounds are standard equipment for many of the most commonly owned handguns in America today.

Re-labeling standard-capacity magazines as "high capacity" does not change their widespread lawful use. The Supreme Court's decision in *District of Columbia v. Heller* established the concept of 'common use,' referring to firearms and related equipment that are widely possessed by law-abiding Americans for lawful purposes.

The fact that these bills would turn nearly every single gun owner in Minnesota into felons overnight is beyond comprehension. It is complete government overreach and would not hold up in the Supreme Court.

The only people that this law affects are the law-abiding Minnesotans, and law-abiding Minnesotans don't deserve to have their rights taken away.

Ben Egelston

Benjamin Egelston

House Letter in regards to HF3433 & HF3402

Hello Minnesota House Members & Public Safety Committee

I am a resident of Northeast Minneapolis and have lived in Minnesota for much of my life. I grew up in a conservative household living across the US. Hunting and firearms use has been a normal part of my life for some time. After going to college at Augsburg College (now Augsburg University) and living in Minneapolis over the past 17 years, I've found myself to have become a fairly left leaning individual. In fact, I'm not certain I have ever voted for a Republican outside of my first presidential election.

I say this because, on paper, I should be in favor for these bills. Unfortunately, this could not be further from the truth.

These bills, as written, turn millions of Minnesotans into felons without any sort of reconciliation for their valued property. Further, it redefines and bans common place items. These bills restrict law abiding citizens of the 2nd Amendment Rights.

I understand the spirit of these bills as an effort to prevent many of the terrible and tragic gun deaths in our state. They are noble in their desired effect. There should never again be another Annunciation shooting. There should never again be another assassination of our politicians. These laws would not prevent such a thing from happening.

Without addressing the root causes of these issues they will simply happen again in different forms. Minnesotans have had access to these tools for more than 70 years. The problems our society experiences these days are more modern. They cannot be simply linked to these weapons as the reason these terrible events happen. The wealth gap and general wellness of our country are far more aligned with the rise of these tragedies.

These terrible acts are committed by people who have been separated and radicalized by our the fringes of our society. It is well documented that social media is the largest cause of this. Where is the legislation to curtail these things? Where is the defending of our people from Big Tech?

With authoritarian attitudes and fascism at our doorstep, why is now the right time to restrict our 2nd Amendment rights? We have a 1st Amendment right because it is defended by our 2nd. When our people are being slain by the federal government in our streets why is now that we must strip further power from our people?

No one wants to see more tragic death in our home. These bills will not prevent

them and only serve to further divide us from our neighbors.

Benjamin Nathaniel Robertson
NE Minneapolis Resident
Proud Minnesotan

To whom it may concern:

I am a Minnesota citizen and am writing due to my concerns about recent bills proposed entailing a ban of all semi-automatic rifles (**HF 3433**) and a ban on all magazines that hold over 10 rounds (**HF 3402**). I strongly oppose both of these measures.

While I firmly believe action should be taken to increase safety of all Minnesota citizens, I do not believe either of these bills will notably accomplish this goal. Instead, they will provide a range of irritations and issues for law-abiding citizens while accomplishing little of note. The costs for implementing such programs would much better go towards increased mental health protections, which have been shown to be far more effective in reducing violence. The proposed bills would also create financial hurdles for citizens who do enjoy safe firearm use, with a disproportionate effect on lower income citizens who would have to replace already owned equipment.

I also fully acknowledge that there have been negative impacts from the second amendment and it's subsequent easier access to firearms - but these bills will do very little to reduce that impact. Of note, there are many examples of firearms that are manufactured specifically to work around similar bans that exist in other states, showing that anyone who desires the capabilities these bills are attempting to suppress can work around them. Thus we end up in a situation where the negative ramifications are not alleviated, but we also dampen the positive impacts the second amendment was intended to have on the citizens.

It is rare for me to write a message of this sort. I hope this helps indicate how strongly I feel these bills do nothing positive for the citizens of our great state, and in fact will be likely to have long term negative consequences. I humbly request that these bills both be stopped before they can move any further.

Thank you,

Benjamin E. Jacobs

To the Honorable Representatives of the Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee:

I am writing to you to express my opposition to bills HF 3433 and HF 3402 that are currently being considered by your committee. As a lifelong Democratic voter who has participated in every special, primary, and general election since graduating college, a few years ago I would have welcomed bills such as these, but since then I—and others I know—have changed our opinions in light of the events that have happened in our community.

Over the last few months our community here in St. Paul and the rest of the Twin Cities metro has been under what can only be described as an occupation by a fascist paramilitary organization that reveled in threatening, beating, abducting, and—in two cases—killing us. And while the alleged ending of Operation Metro Surge and the withdrawal of its agents is a victory, it is inevitable that they will return to avenge their wounded pride. When they do so, be it this summer, before the election, or 2027, I fear an increasingly unpopular and desperate administration that will have no other recourse to hold onto power than overwhelming violence will give the agencies under their command free reign to go even further than they already have, to the point of “shoot legal observers on sight” or to take everyone they can to the mass detention facilities they are spending \$50 billion to build with medical incinerators and with far more capacity than needed for just immigrants, and from what I have seen through their documented actions and heard from others they will do so with manic glee.

The actions of those in our community who have stood up to the federal government, be it protests, aiding people dumped out of Whipple in the below zero weather by agents in a manner similar to the Starlight Tours of Saskatoon, to providing aid and succor to those at risk of being evicted as they skip their jobs in fear of being disappeared, have been truly inspiring, and it has done so almost completely without firearms. This has been to the benefit of our cause in the eyes of the wider world, but when the next occupation decides to go further the rest of the world’s thoughts will not matter, and our first concern must be the immediate protection of ourselves and our neighbors. The federal government seeks the eradication of everything our state stands for (see an article from columnist Lexington from The Economist on January 21st, among numerous other articles from both them and local, national, and international news sources) and Democratic congressional leaders already started watering down their demands on DHS before the partial shutdown even started. When our need to be served and protected was greatest our state and local law enforcement either vanished or actively collaborated against us, and the provisions of this bill that seemingly allow them warrantless entry into homes to inspect the storage of assault weapons will no doubt be abused when they again collaborate with the federal government (with or without the consent of the state) and cross-check their list of “domestic terrorists” with the certificates for people being grandfathered in.

We are on our own, and choosing to unilaterally disarm ourselves of tools that have some level of parity with the paramilitaries arrayed against us is something that will leave historians scratching their heads in bafflement. America’s firearms culture has inflicted many ills on us

through general violent crime, mass shootings, suicides, and accidents caused by negligence. In normal times HF 3433 and 3402 would be important steps towards bringing us in line with the rest of the developed world, but we are not in normal times. I think of a woman I went to high school with who was an ethnic Albanian refugee from Kosovo, whose family had to flee armed paramilitaries backed by the Serbian government that were determined to create a state without non-Serbs and non-Christian, and of an article I read this weekend of a family from Myanmar who've been hiding in their homes in fear of our government , just a few years after doing the same when the military junta staged a coup and roamed the streets looking for potential victims, never expecting they'd experience the exact same thing here. I know that historians will have little issue comparing our current situation to those or other horrific incidents throughout the 20th and 21st centuries (and I have seen academics and journalists outside the United States who do not live with the immediate fear of retaliation already doing so).

American exceptionalism has always stated "it could never happen here", but it happened on the streets outside our windows yesterday, it is happening today, and it will happen again tomorrow in a manner even more terrible. And that requires a reassessment of long-held stances on the topical issue if we want to prevent it from happening the day after tomorrow.

Thank you for your time, and for the work you do for Minnesota and all its residents in increasingly troubled times.

Benjamin O'Donnell
St. Paul, Minnesota

Robert Friedheim
6600 Chicago Ave

Richfield MN 55423

2/21/26

Dear MN State Representatives,

I am writing to respectfully urge my representatives to vote **NO** on HF 3433 and HF 3402, which are scheduled for hearing before the House Public Safety Committee.

HF 3433 proposes a ban on the possession of most semi-automatic rifles. HF 3402 proposes a total ban on the possession of magazines holding more than ten rounds.

I strongly oppose these measures because they would impose sweeping restrictions on law-abiding citizens while doing little to address the root causes of violent crime. Many responsible gun owners, including myself, rely on semi-automatic firearms and standard-capacity magazines for lawful purposes such as self-defense, sport shooting, and hunting. These broad prohibitions risk penalizing responsible citizens rather than individuals who intend to commit crimes.

Additionally, these proposals raise significant constitutional concerns regarding the Second Amendment rights of Minnesotans. Policies that restrict commonly owned firearms and accessories deserve careful scrutiny, and I believe these bills go too far in limiting the rights of responsible residents.

I respectfully ask that you oppose HF 3433 and HF 3402 and instead focus on solutions that target criminal activity, strengthen enforcement of existing laws, and address underlying factors contributing to violence.

Thank you for your time and for your service to our community.

Sincerely,

Robert Friedheim

Hello, I am writing this in opposition to the proposed bills HF3433 and HF3402 banning semi automatic rifles and magazines with a capacity over ten rounds which if passed will make citizens felons essentially overnight. These bills will punish people who have done nothing other than own something that may have been in their family for generations and past down. These are items that I own and simply by owning them, and have owned them for thirty years, will become a felon without committing a crime other than by simply possessing them. Again for something that I have owned for at least thirty years. How does this address crime? These bills do nothing to keep the criminals from obtaining them and who may already be precluded from legally obtaining and possessing them to begin with. In countries, such as in the UK and Australia, violent crime per capita has increased since the banning of firearms which is the opposite outcome for their banning. Also homicide rates spiked after banning. Those realities undermine any proposed safety outcomes proposed by the banning of semi automatic rifles or magazines holding more than ten rounds.

Again these proposed bills do nothing to address crime and only achieve in making citizens felons for possessing items that they already possess, and have possessed, legally without incident for potentially years. These bills also will not stop criminals from obtaining them as criminals do not go thru legal channels in the first place. Felons do not purchase firearms legally and acquire them thru illegal straw purchasers or from the street by sale, trade, or as a gift to commit a crime.

To whom it may concern,

The proposed legislation, HF 3433 - Semi-Automatic Rifle Ban, is the most absurd piece of legislation I have ever heard of. I would not be allowed to hunt with a semi-automatic rifle, like I currently do. So now I would need to go buy another gun, just to deer hunt. This is a ridiculous concept.

Law enforcement is not going to inspect your home for safe storage. They have better things to be doing. Also, I would need to pay for this at an unknown cost?! How absurd.

How about rather than making my life harder, you do things to make it better? Less taxes, less fraud, more freedom.

HF 3402 - Total Ban on Possession of Magazines holding more than 10 rounds

I would love to see the data showing this would help reduce crime or violence. Every other place this concept has been tried has not been any safer. This would limit my ability to protect my land, my family and my freedom.

None of these proposals do anything to help keep us safer. This is a way to limit my God given, 2nd Amendment right. Spend your time making life better in this once great state, rather than going after people's rights. Unbelievable. No wonder people are fleeing this state and businesses aren't coming in. It's because of ideas like this.

I oppose everything about this legislation and these ideas.

The only thing that will stop a bad guy with a gun...is a good guy.

Brian Murphy

I am writing this to voice my opposition to bills HF 3433 & HF 3402.

Bill HF3433 is unconstitutional. This ban on semi-automatic rifles covers most of the sold rifles makes no rational sense because it appears you are not obeying the 2nd amendment of the constitution by disarming Minnesotans. It is my right as a citizen to be able to protect myself and my family no matter what semi-automatic rifle it is. READ the text in the 2nd amendment of the Constitution, it reads: A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, **the right** of the people to **keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.**

Bill 3402 does nothing but hurts law abiding citizens and makes criminals happy. This has been tried before and didn't work. If laws were enforced for those who break laws, you wouldn't have to try and rehash thoughtless bills like this one. You are protecting the wrong people.

If you pass this bill, you are disregarding your responsibility being a lawmaker by making us less safe. Meanwhile criminals will happily disregard any such laws knowing we can just be fish in a barrel so to speak. Easy pickins.

I strongly oppose your actions in introducing or passing this and other such bills in the conscious attempt to disarm us and put our lives at risk.

Sincerely,

Brian Ostrom

Montgomery, MN

To the House Public Safety Committee,

Please include this letter in the official record for the February 24th hearing regarding HF 3433 and HF 3402. I am writing to state my firm opposition to these bills. While our state government has yet to provide accountability for the \$9 billion lost to fraud, it is unacceptable to focus legislative energy on turning law-abiding hunters and firearm owners into felons.

In this 67-67 tied House, the public is watching the \$907 million bonding bill closely. Our Second Amendment rights are not for sale for a \$40.8 million interchange in Lakeville or road projects in District 30B. We see the "carrots" being dangled to flip votes, and we will not accept "legislative horse-trading" at the expense of our constitutional protections. I urge a NO vote on these measures and a refocus on actual public safety and fiscal accountability.

Sincerely, Brian Schuneman Wyoming MN.

2/22/2026

House Public Safety Committee
State Capitol Room 120

Strong Opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

My name is Brian S. and I am a local resident in Marshall, MN. I am writing to express my strong opposition towards HF 3433 and HF 3402. The reason is straight forward why I oppose both of these. It not only blatantly violates my Second Amendment rights, but also every other resident in our state here.

Reasons I Oppose Both:

- Clearly violates the Second and Fourth Amendment.
- Does nothing to stop criminals from committing harmful crimes.
- It is not about safety, these are both about government control.

My stance on both bills HF3433 and HF3402 are very clear. The Second Amendment is clear with the words included: "Shall not be infringed". Whether you want to exercise that right or not is up to you. These will do nothing for public safety, but affect us law-abiding citizens. It will only favor criminals as they will find a way around this regardless. Also, what is introduced in HF3433 violates our Fourth Amendment right. At the end of the day, both these bills are not about safety.

I would like to urge the committee to oppose both of these bills without question. Thank you for your time in attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Brian S.

Honorable Representatives of the Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee;

I am writing in regards to HF 3433: A ban on the possession of most semi-automatic rifles and HF 3402: A total ban on the possession of magazines holding more than ten rounds.

These bills will negatively impact myself, as well as tens of thousands of other law abiding Minnesotans in the following ways:

1. The bills run afoul of the 2nd amendment of the constitution: **“the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.”**

2. The bills run afoul of the 5th amendment of the constitution: **“nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation. “**

- I don't see any provisions in the two bills that would compensate people for the seizure of their legally purchased property.

3. The penalty in HF 3402 is listed as **“a felony and may be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than five years or to payment of a fine of not more than \$25,000, or both.”** Therefore if this bill had been in place January 24th, 2026, ICE Agents would have claimed another justification (per use of deadly force statute 609.066), in their shooting of Alex Pretti due to his 17 round magazines and threaded barrel...

- **The notion that political leaders want to broach that possibility of legitimacy, while our constitutional crisis is still on-going, is sickening.**

<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/609.066>

4. Permit to Carry applications have jumped 75% across the state compared to last year. That coupled with the facts that most guns sold are both semi automatic, and come with magazines that hold more than 10 rounds, means the features attempting to be banned are already in “common use”. They will only get more 'common', and in more 'use'. So stop pushing illogical classifications already.

5. HF 3433 is obviously yet another attempt to ban many cosmetic features for frivolous reasons. Which makes it obvious, these bills are not about safety. Simply the same failed idea's again.

- Retractable stock: Why is a stock that can accommodate many different body types a bad thing?

- Adjustable sights: Accuracy is a core tenant in many training curriculum and competitions. We have Olympic games that incorporate this. I fail so see why this is a feature worth banning.

- “Case deflector for left-handed shooters”: I'm surprised by the narrow definition on this one. Where a brass case is ejected, and the dominant hand of the shooter has no bearing on safety...

- Wood, Plastic, or Metal stock: what material does that leave? Glass or paper? This makes no sense.

- The same arbitrary features list has been attempted in other legislation ad nauseam.

6. The certification of ownership requirement sounds an awful lot like a registry.

- Minnesota hasn't even finished wading through the copious amounts of injustice from a federal agency compiling their own secret lists of political enemies, and the Minnesota legislature wants to compile another list rife for abuse? I don't see how this would be anything other than enabling more fascism regardless of party affiliation.

7. The exception for “any government officer, agent, or employee”:

- Politicians picking who is afforded which rights now? Minnesota is better than that. If these features and objects are so dangerous and have no function other than carnage, why does “any government officer, agent, or employee” still need to possess them?
- The reality is; emergency service personnel are second responders. The ‘individual’ is always the first responder to their own crisis happening to them. The ‘Individual’ needs the best means to protect themselves just like “any government officer, agent, or employee”. If both classes of people have the same need, why would the legislature hinder the rights of one class of people and not another?

Minnesota has enough issues to work through; be it fraud, politically motivated attacks of the public by a certain federal agency, or the financial and social hardships brought on by all the recent turmoil.

Minnesota is more united than ever. Minnesota values ALL of our rights, more than ever. These bills seek to punish those who follow the law for the actions of others. We are very aware of how that plays out due to recent events. Throw these bills away, and focus on issues that unite us, rather than divide us.

-Brian
MN House - 43A

WRITTEN TESTIMONY OPPOSING HF 3433 AND HF 3402

My name is Brittany Stone. I live in Duluth, Minnesota, in Minnesota's 8th Congressional District. I respectfully submit this written testimony in opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402.

“Assault weapon” is an arbitrary label, not an objective measure of destructive capability

“Assault weapon” is not a standardized technical category. The definition changes depending on which bill, which state, and which set of policymakers is writing it. The Congressional Research Service notes there is **no standardized definition** and that usage varies widely among policymakers.

Because the label is typically built around feature checklists, it risks turning lawmaking into aesthetics: what looks scary, what feels “military style,” what has the “wrong” accessories, rather than what actually determines harm such as behavior, intent, criminal history, and the circumstances of violence.

These bills impose major uncompensated financial losses on ordinary Minnesotans

A sweeping possession ban and an across the board magazine ban would force many law abiding Minnesotans into an impossible choice: dispose of lawful property at a loss, move it out of state, or risk becoming criminals over paperwork and definitions.

In Duluth and across northern Minnesota, “tens of thousands of dollars” is not hypothetical. It can represent years of lawful purchases and investments tied to sporting use, training, accessories, and family property passed down over time.

Whatever one's personal views on firearms, the state should not impose massive uncompensated losses on people who have committed no crime. Not only is this bill immoral as it stands, it is blatantly unconstitutional.

These bills do not match how gun violence typically occurs

If the stated goal is to reduce shootings and homicides, the policy focus should match the most common reality: handguns are used far more often than rifles in firearm murders. Pew Research Center's summary of FBI data for 2023 reports handguns were involved in **53%** of U.S. gun murders and non negligent manslaughters where firearm type was known, while rifles were involved in **4%**.

That does not mean rifle crimes do not matter. It does mean a broad rifle category ban is likely to be largely symbolic for the most common forms of everyday violence, while creating major new criminal exposure for compliant citizens.

A “more than 10 rounds” limit is an arbitrary line that criminalizes common items

HF 3402 would ban possession of magazines capable of holding more than ten rounds. The choice of “10” is a policy preference, not a proven safety threshold. It risks criminalizing common, widely owned equipment and creating new offenses that fall primarily on people trying to follow the law.

In strained times, disarming compliant residents is the wrong direction

In northern communities like Duluth, where weather, distance, and response times can be real factors, many people place value on lawful self-reliance and personal safety. At a time when trust in institutions and public safety feels strained for many Americans, expanding broad possession bans that mainly affect law abiding residents is more likely to increase anxiety than increase safety.

I urge you to vote **NO** on HF 3433 and HF 3402. These bills rely on shifting labels and arbitrary thresholds, impose heavy financial harm on lawful Minnesotans, and do not align with how firearm violence most commonly occurs. Minnesota should instead pursue targeted, evidence informed strategies that address dangerous behavior and violent offenders directly.

Respectfully,
Brittany Stone
Duluth, MN, Minnesota’s 8th Congressional District

Bryan Strawser
Roseville, Minnesota

Minnesota House Public Safety Committee
Minnesota House of Representatives
Saint Paul, Minnesota

February 23, 2026

Re: Opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402

Chairs and Members of the Committee,

My name is Bryan Strawser, and I live in Roseville, Minnesota. I am a business owner, a doctoral student, an EMS volunteer, a father of two teenage daughters, and a law-abiding firearm owner.

I own firearms and magazines like those targeted in HF 3433 and HF 3402 for the purpose of self-defense.

I am here to oppose HF 3433 and HF 3402 because they would turn hundreds of thousands, if not more, Minnesotans into felons for owning commonplace firearms and magazines that are widely used by law-abiding citizens.

These bills criminalize law-abiding, peaceable citizens.

Normal Minnesotans should not become felons for owning normal, commonly owned firearms. Yet that is precisely what these bills would do.

Under HF 3433 and HF 3402, a person could face felony prosecution and up to five years in prison just for possessing an ordinary semi-automatic rifle or a standard magazine. No one needs to harm anyone else. No violent act needs to occur. Simple possession alone is enough.

Millions of Americans and hundreds of thousands of Minnesotans legally own AR-15 pattern rifles and standard-capacity magazines. These items are mainstream and ordinary, not uniquely dangerous or exotic. Yet these bills would make possession of these commonplace items a felony.

This is not targeted at violent criminals. This is targeted at peaceful citizens.

Over the past month, there has been widespread public discussion about the tragic killing of Alex Pretti, a Minneapolis resident who was shot and killed by federal immigration agents earlier this year. Mr. Pretti was legally carrying a firearm under Minnesota law at the time of his death. Federal officials initially sought to justify the shooting by focusing on the mere fact that he had a gun despite evidence suggesting he was helping another person and was not brandishing his weapon when shots were fired.

Many citizens, lawmakers, and advocacy groups have praised Mr. Pretti's Second Amendment right to carry and have called for transparency and accountability following his death.

Yet here in Minnesota, this Committee is considering legislation that would have retroactively made Mr. Pretti a felon on that very day simply for possessing a firearm he was legally allowed to carry under Minnesota law.

That is a contradiction. It is a stark inconsistency to celebrate Mr. Pretti's right to bear arms in public discourse but then advance legislation that would criminalize the very possession that so many people were told was a lawful right. Law-abiding gun owners should not be treated as criminals when they do exactly what the law allows.

Warrantless Inspection Requirement in HF 3433

HF 3433 contains another deeply troubling provision that goes far beyond banning firearms. To qualify for grandfathering under this bill, current firearm owners would have to allow police to inspect their homes at the whim of the government.

Under this bill, a law-abiding citizen who has done nothing wrong would be required to allow law enforcement to enter and inspect their home to prove compliance and preserve their ability to keep their existing property.

How often would these inspections occur? **Who knows.**

What else could officers legally observe while they are in your home? **Who knows.**

This requirement raises severe Fourth Amendment concerns. Peaceful citizens should not have to prove their innocence through government entry into their private homes.

The United States Supreme Court has made clear that the Second Amendment protects arms that are in common use for lawful purposes, including self-defense.

Modern restrictions must be consistent with the Nation's historical tradition of firearm regulation. Bans on categories of commonly owned arms and magazines fail that test.

These bills would not make Minnesotans safer. Violent criminals do not comply with magazine limits. Violent criminals do not surrender prohibited firearms. Criminals do not register accessories or turn in contraband. These bills expand the criminal code to punish peaceful citizens.

Law Enforcement Exemptions

HF 3433 and HF 3402 exempt government agents and law enforcement from the very prohibitions they impose on ordinary citizens. This is not a minor detail. **The Second Amendment was not intended to be a sporting regulation.** It exists to preserve a structural balance between the people and the state. Reserving certain arms for government agents while banning them for law-abiding citizens shifts that balance in the government's favor.

Historically, possession-based felony laws have not fallen evenly across communities. Those who already have the most contact with police, including communities of color and the poor, are disproportionately affected. Meanwhile, individuals intent on committing violence will not comply with deadlines or surrender schedules.

The people most affected by these bills would be the people who already follow the law.

Public safety is a serious responsibility. Expanding felony law for peaceful possession of mainstream property does not meaningfully address violent offenders or repeat criminals. It increases government power, expands criminal liability, and changes the relationship between citizens and the state.

For all these reasons, I urge you to vote NO on HF 3433 and HF 3402.

Sincerely,



Bryan Strawser
Roseville, Minnesota

My name is Bryce Carrington, and I am a resident of Minneapolis, Minnesota. I have lived in Minnesota my entire life and have always proudly voted blue.

I am writing to strongly oppose HF 3433, which would ban the possession of most semi-automatic rifles classified as "semiautomatic military-style assault weapons," and HF 3402, which would ban the possession of all magazines capable of holding more than 10 rounds. These bills are unconstitutional under the Second Amendment and recent U.S. Supreme Court precedent, and they would criminalize responsible gun owners like me overnight.

Semi-automatic rifles, such as the AR-15 platform and similar firearms, are among the most commonly owned rifles in the United States and in Minnesota. They are used lawfully for self-defense, hunting, target shooting, and recreational purposes. These are not exotic or unusual weapons. They are the modern equivalent of the firearms protected by the Second Amendment.

These bills would turn tens of thousands of ordinary Minnesotans into felons for possessing items they legally acquired and have used responsibly for years. The penalties disproportionately harm people who pose zero threat to public safety. They do nothing to address criminal misuse of firearms while infringing on the rights of people like me. I strongly urge the Committee to reject HF 3433 and HF 3402. They violate the plain text, history, and tradition of the Second Amendment, as interpreted by the Supreme Court and everyone who peacefully exercises their 2A rights. Please protect the constitutional rights of your constituents and oppose these measures.

I am all for sensible measures - I will always support any bill which simplifies access to mental health treatment, strengthens background checks and mental health screening for firearm transfers, or increase penalties for crimes committed with firearms. However, I cannot continue to support and vote for the DFL that ignores sensible measures and aggressively pushes to disarm me. The party has lost my vote until this stops.

Thank you for considering my testimony. Sincerely,

Bryce Carrington

5315 Nokomis Ave

Minneapolis, MN 55417

My name is Bryce Johnson I am a law-abiding firearm owner and a resident of Royalton, Minnesota. I am writing to you to let you know I oppose HF 3433, and HF 3402. While I support sensible steps to improve public safety, these bills are written so broadly that they will unintentionally criminalize many law-abiding citizens and affect firearms used for legitimate sport, hunting, and self-defense.

I have several key concerns regarding the current legislation:

1. The definition of a “semiautomatic military-style assault weapon” is component based and could capture many common, rifles used for hunting, sport, and competition shooting
2. A 10-round cutoff is problematic as many mainstream pistols and utility rifles are standard with magazines that exceed this capacity, making many of us who purchased these firearms legally, in violation of the law. As well as requiring legal gun owners to purchase magazines that would be compliant to replace the ones we would be required to destroy.
3. Putting the transfer and inspection burden on the local police department or sheriff, will unnecessarily place additional strain on our already short staffed law enforcement departments across the state.
4. These definitions will sweep in common firearms, creating significant compliance and administrative burdens for law-abiding citizens and the state.

These bills will restrict freedoms, and add unnecessary requirements for those that follow the law.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue. I am happy to meet with you or your staff to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

Bryce Johnson
Royalton, MN
brycjohn1@gmail.com

22 February 2026

Regarding: HF 3402 and HF 3433

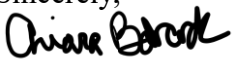
My reason for writing to you is to request you do not pass the above mentioned bills.

I do not own a firearm; I do care about protecting the constitutional rights of Americans.

Criminals do not care about laws; they know the laws, and they choose to not follow them, this is why they are called criminals. New laws that restrict our constitutional rights will not cause criminals to become law abiding.

If magazine capacity is restricted to 10 rounds or less criminals are not going to surrender or destroy their higher capacity magazines (HF 3402). Law-abiding persons will. If semi-automatic rifles are banned from legal purchase and transfer criminals will continue to find ways to obtain semi-automatic weapons (HF 3433).

These proposed laws will infringe on the rights of law-abiding citizens; they will not cause criminals to 'straighten out.' Holding criminals responsible for their illegal actions is a better way forward to prevent crimes. The laws are already in place to do that, let them serve us.

Sincerely,

55106

Written Testimony In Opposition of Bills HF 3402, SF 3714 and HF 3433,
SF 3654 to House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee

Dear members of the House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee, my name is Caleb Hanan, and I am a resident of Watkins Minnesota. I completely oppose the bills that will stomp on Minnesotans second and fourth amendment rights. Banning the "Possession of semiautomatic military-style assault weapons" would ban firearms that are and kept for self defence of our selves and our families.

A ban of this caliber is an infringement of every Minnesotan's second amendment and serves to disarm legal gun owners, while not stopping criminals and illegal gun owners from obtaining such weapons. Banning these weapons does not address the core of the gun violence issue. We should focus more on addressing mental health issues instead of disarming legal gun owners. This style of weapon is one of the most commonly owned and used firearms for sport, hunting, and self defence; and will greatly impact a substantial amount of the Minnesota population for the worse.

Requiring us to get and pay for a certificate of ownership serves as a requirement to ask if we can have permission for our second amendment right and acts as another unreasonable tax on our property. Requirement of storage inspections should a citizen maintain ownership of the rifle is an infringement of the fourth amendment.

The banning of (standard capacity) magazines that have more than 10 rounds lowers the likelihood of survival of legal gun owners and their families in a defensive shooting. This would force legal gun owners to waste precious time in a life or death event having to reload their fire arm, especially if there are multiple attackers. This only serves to make felons out of legal gun owners overnight, and another attack on those of us who believe our second second amendment right shall not be infringed.

I am writing to express my strong opposition to any gun control bills!!

As a leader in the firearm industry and owner of Off Grid Armory, I can say with confidence that banning semi-auto rifles and restricting magazine capacity will not make our communities safer. These measures do not target criminals they burden law-abiding citizens who already follow the law.

At Off Grid Armory, we teach Permit to Carry classes with an average attendance of 64 students each month. This consistent participation demonstrates that Minnesotans want to understand the law and learn how to handle firearms safely and responsibly. They are actively seeking education and compliance they are not looking for ways to break the law.

History shows us that efforts to disarm citizens have rarely been about public safety alone. Around the world and throughout history, governments that restrict lawful firearm ownership often begin by targeting commonly owned firearms under the justification of safety. Over time, these policies frequently expand, leaving responsible citizens with fewer rights and fewer means to protect themselves. The right to keep and bear arms was enshrined as a safeguard, not only for personal protection, but as a protection against excessive government overreach.

What I see in these bills is government overreach that penalizes responsible citizens while criminals continue to ignore existing laws. Minnesota has a strong population of hunters, competitive shooters, small business owners, and responsible firearm owners. These bills unfairly impact that community without addressing the root causes of criminal activity.

HF3433 and HF3402 do nothing to prevent criminals from obtaining or using firearms illegally. Instead, they criminalize law-abiding Minnesotans who are exercising their constitutional rights.

I urge you to reject these proposals and focus instead on measures that address crime without punishing responsible citizens.

**Samuel and Caren Smith
President and Vice President
Off Grid Armory
Off Grid Suppressors
27110 206th St
Shevlin, MN 56676**

218-657-2264

Written Testimony in Opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402

Submitted by: Carrie Barclay
City: Chanhassen, Minnesota
Date: February 23, 2026

Submitted to: House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee

My name is Carrie Barclay, and I am a constituent in Chanhassen, Minnesota. I am submitting this testimony in opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402.

I am an independent voter who leans Democrat and supports evidence-based public safety policy. I am also a responsible, law-abiding firearm owner. I store my firearms securely, follow all transportation and carry laws, and train regularly to remain proficient and safe. I have never posed a threat to my family, my neighbors, or my community.

Under HF 3433 and HF 3402, I would be prohibited from possessing firearms and magazines that I legally purchased and have responsibly owned for years. My conduct would not change, but my legal status would. These bills would apply broadly to individuals who have complied with all existing laws and safety requirements.

My reasons for ownership include recreational use and lawful self-defense. As a single woman, I value the ability to protect myself. I hold a valid permit to carry and comply fully with Minnesota law. Firearms that are reliable and commonly owned are a lawful means of personal protection, particularly for individuals who may be physically overpowered in a violent encounter.

HF 3433 and HF 3402 would restrict semiautomatic firearms and standard-capacity magazines that are widely owned across Minnesota and the United States. In *District of Columbia v. Heller* (2008), the United States Supreme Court held that the Second Amendment protects firearms that are in common use for lawful purposes such as self-defense. Semiautomatic handguns and rifles clearly meet that standard. An estimated two million Minnesotans own firearms, including hundreds of thousands of permit to carry holders. The firearms implicated by these bills are among the most commonly owned.

Public safety is a serious issue that deserves serious solutions. If the goal is to reduce violence, there are targeted approaches that merit discussion and investment, including:

- Expanded firearm safety education and voluntary training incentives
- Increased funding for secure storage awareness programs
- Strengthened mental health intervention and crisis response resources
- Enforcement of existing laws against prohibited possessors
- Data-driven violence prevention initiatives focused on repeat offenders

These approaches address behavior and risk factors without broadly restricting constitutionally protected property owned by law-abiding citizens.

The Second Amendment states that the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed. The Supreme Court has affirmed that protection applies to firearms commonly

possessed for lawful purposes. Policies that primarily impact lawful owners, while those intent on criminal activity disregard the law, do not advance meaningful public safety outcomes.

I respectfully urge the committee to reject HF 3433 and HF 3402 and instead pursue prevention strategies that target criminal conduct, strengthen education, and preserve constitutional protections.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Carrie Barclay

Chanhassen, Minnesota

Good afternoon, I hope this letter reaches you happy and healthy. This bill to ban "assault weapons" and "high capacity magazines" is a mistake morally, intellectually, and legally.

First morally is that it is the job of the government to protect the people (all the people) and not control them, there are people around where I live myself included who still rely on the animals we raise and the plants we grow to put food on the table in winter. Our firearms yes even semi automatic ones keep pests out of the garden and predators out of our herds.

If the worst should happen and someone comes to my home with ill intent I can rely on the police to be there in 30-40 minutes, the same can be said if said police call for back up. I need something that can hold the line until help arrives and to help the officer should they need it like in the case of Deputy Dustin Alexander in 2014. After having shot the Deputy the two suspects then tried to enter the couples farm house but were turned away by the armed pair.

Second intellectually there is no definition of "assault weapons" that can't be twisted to include almost any historical or modern semi automatic firearm. "High capacity" magazines as described in the bill are actually standard capacity and come from the factory to be that size for hand guns it's what fits inside of the grip. They have to be modified to only accept 10 rounds.

Third, legally semiautomatic rifles and pistols are in legal common use for hunting, sporting, and self defense purposes. To ban them would only violate the rights of law abiding citizens. Rifles are extremely rare to be used in criminal activity, with the exception being very high publicity events. And rights should not be removed based on fear.

In conclusion the bill to limit magazine size and the bill to ban assault weapons should be scraped and not revisited in our good state of Minnesota.

Members of the House Public Safety Committee,

I would like to express my opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402. The firearms and magazines in question are commonly owned and used by many Minnesotans for hunting, sport shooting and personal defense. These laws will primarily impact law-abiding citizens and have little effect on crime.

Charles Follett

Charles Rolston
Company Name
584 Donegal Circle
Shoreview, MN 55126

23 Feb 2026

Ellen McDaniel
Ellen.McDaniel@house.mn.gov

CC/BCC Block: rep.kelly.moller@house.mn.gov
Senator John Marty
contact@gunowners.mn

Dear Madam,

I am writing to express my total opposition to House File 3433 and House File 3402. I oppose any proposed ban on commonly owned semi-automatic firearms, standard-capacity magazines, or similar legislation.

These bills are totally unreasonable and unacceptable infringement on the constitutional right to bear arms.

There are no modifications that would make these bills acceptable to me.

Normal people should not become felons for owning normal things. These bills make the mere possession a felon offence. This is a massive expansion of felony law directed a peaceful possession. Roughly 1 in four guns sold in America are AR-15 pattern firearms.

This bill goes too far in granting power to law enforcement officials to go into citizens homes to inspect for compliance.

The constitutional right to bear arms is a fundamental keystone of the constitutional balance of power between the citizens of the United States and the powers of the government. This balance of power is intentional.

These firearms and magazines are used every day by peaceable Minnesotans for self-defense, hunting, sport shooting, and training — and they are clearly protected under the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Banning them will not make Minnesota safer. It will only punish law-abiding gun owners while doing nothing to stop criminals who ignore the law.

Sincerely,



Charles Rolston

Hello,

I'm writing to urge reconsideration on bills HF 3402 & SF 3714 Large Capacity Magazine Bans and HF 3433 & SF 3654 Assault Weapon Bans.

In light of the Federal occupation of Minnesota this year, and specifically the profound sense of Federal government betrayal from Operation Metro Surge, these bills warrant revision and potentially total reconsideration.

I've worked in big tech with medical records and financial systems for the past 15 years and have a family history of military service and Federal government defense contracting. I believe that the extreme proliferation of firearms in the civilian population, while something I'm generally uncomfortable with, has played a silent yet significant role in deterring a more dangerous situation on the ground here in Minnesota so far in 2026.

I purchased a firearm for the first time in my life this month. I did so despite the fact that it was never a priority prior to 2026, and I never plan or desire to ever shoot a firearm towards a living being. I did so because I believe that there is enough available data about firearm purchases that a company such as Palantir could, with money and connections, feasibly build out profiles for every citizen in the US. The software applications that direct the actions of the DHS agents in our communities likely take into account aggregated economic, demographic, and propensity that households are armed when targeting their paramilitary-style actions.

It was amazing to me how easy it was to purchase what I consider to be an extremely dangerous weapon in the form of a pump-action shotgun. It took about 10 minutes for a background check and I didn't require any sort of permit to purchase it. The legislation that is proposed here does nothing to make acquiring that or even more dangerous semi-automatic shotguns any more difficult.

Both bills contain exemptions for Government agents, and the assault weapon ban text exempts all government employees. I feel less safe from these populations having guns than the general public, and advocate for legislation that mandates demilitarization of all Government forces in the state of Minnesota commensurate with any demilitarization of the civilian populace.

The Assault Weapon Ban bills include additional administrative costs including significant administrative burden and open-ended licensing fees at a time when the state budget is already under intense, previously unexpected pressure. The provision for mandatory home inspections, while not strictly unconstitutional, will certainly be seen as such for any privacy advocates.

As someone with both a mother and sister who are Catholic high school teachers in the Twin Cities metro, I do understand how profoundly the shooting last year at Annunciation shook our community. I completely understand how this legislation aims to mitigate the amount of harm that can be caused should similar tragic events continue to occur. I believe the most important thing we can do for prevention is strong social welfare programs, including single payer

healthcare and adequate support for housing and food. Right now more than ever, those need to be our legislative priorities.

My concern for the bills is rooted in pragmatism: this has the potential to preserve the fragmented state of the Minnesota State Government at a time when we have an unprecedented opportunity to build the varied coalition that we need in order to pass legislative priorities, which should be focused on social welfare to assist those most vulnerable members of our community. More and more people to whom the second amendment is a real priority are currently politically disenfranchised.

If we show now that the voting public needs to choose between the most corrupt political party in history and a party that is vowing to strip them of their constitutionally protected ability to own firearms and turn hundreds of thousands of Minnesotans into felons by inaction and spend their tax dollars to it, we will continue to perpetuate the same environment rife with division and political apathy that caused this dangerous Federal administration to be elected in the first place.

Chris Bevington
Oregon Ave, St Louis Park, MN

Minnesota Public Safety Committee,

My name is Chris Thompson. I live in Maplewood, MN, and I oppose HF3433/HF3402 bills that intend to ban the so-called "assault weapons" ban and large capacity magazines. I'm not going to support a bill that criminalizes private Minnesota residents (legal gun owners) of not only owning AR-15-style rifles, but factory handguns sold with magazines made by companies like Glock, FN, and other brands that hold more than 10 rounds of ammo. People that commit crimes don't care about gun laws (or really any laws), or who gets hurt or killed. I know similar bills like this have been submitted before. I also know there is a massive push for this because of the Annunciation Church shooting, but I'm not going to support these bills.

Chris Thompson.

I am writing in opposition to mag ban HF3402 / SF3714 and semi-auto rifle ban HF3433 / SF3654.

I hope you consider the ramifications of what it means to disarm historically disenfranchised members of your community that have been unable to rely on anyone other than themselves. Taking away the best tools that are available to law abiding, private individuals does nothing to protect other members of the community. At a time of peak new gun ownership and interest for "nontraditional" gun owners, this legislation is as tone deaf as the Mulford Act.

Dear Chair and Members of the House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee,

My name is Christopher Larson, and I am a law-abiding resident of Burnsville, Minnesota. I am writing to strongly oppose HF 3402, which would ban the possession of magazines holding more than 10 rounds, and HF 3433, which would ban semi-automatic rifles (often referred to as "semiautomatic military-style assault weapons"). These bills are scheduled for a hearing in your committee soon, and I urge you to reject them entirely.

I own firearms specifically for home defense and personal protection. Like millions of responsible gun owners across Minnesota and the country, I have standard magazines that hold more than 10 rounds—these are the normal-capacity magazines that come with many defensive handguns and rifles. In a real-life self-defense scenario, where seconds count and stress is high, the ability to have sufficient ammunition without constant reloading can be critical to stopping a threat and protecting my family. Forcing me to use limited 10-round magazines would put me at a serious disadvantage against someone who intends harm and ignores the law.

HF 3402 goes even further by offering no grandfather clause for existing magazines. It would require current owners to destroy, surrender, modify, or remove them from the state—turning me into a criminal overnight simply for possessing items I legally acquired and have never misused. This is not about public safety; criminals don't comply with magazine limits, so these restrictions only disarm honest people like me.

Similarly, HF 3433 would ban common semi-automatic rifles that are widely used for lawful self-defense, sport shooting, and in some cases hunting. Many of these firearms are in common use nationwide, protected under the Second Amendment, and banning them (even with limited grandfathering that includes registration, home inspections, and severe restrictions) violates our fundamental rights.

These bills treat law-abiding Minnesotans like potential criminals while failing to address the root causes of violence. You have no right to limit my firearms and magazines in this way—it infringes on my constitutional right to self-defense and the freedoms our state and nation were founded upon.

I respectfully ask that you vote against HF 3402 and HF 3433. Focus instead on prosecuting violent criminals, improving mental health resources, and supporting law enforcement—measures that actually make our communities safer without punishing responsible gun owners.

Thank you for your time and for considering my testimony. I am available if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Christopher Larson

Burnsville, MN 55337

Dear Chair and Members of the House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee,

My name is Cindy Larson, and I am a law-abiding resident of Burnsville, Minnesota. I am writing to strongly oppose HF 3402, which would ban the possession of magazines holding more than 10 rounds, and HF 3433, which would ban semi-automatic rifles (often referred to as "semiautomatic military-style assault weapons"). These bills are scheduled for a hearing in your committee soon, and I urge you to reject them entirely.

I own firearms specifically for home defense and personal protection. Like millions of responsible gun owners across Minnesota and the country, I have standard magazines that hold more than 10 rounds—these are the normal-capacity magazines that come with many defensive handguns and rifles. In a real-life self-defense scenario, where seconds count and stress is high, the ability to have sufficient ammunition without constant reloading can be critical to stopping a threat and protecting my family. Forcing me to use limited 10-round magazines would put me at a serious disadvantage against someone who intends harm and ignores the law.

HF 3402 goes even further by offering no grandfather clause for existing magazines. It would require current owners to destroy, surrender, modify, or remove them from the state—turning me into a criminal overnight simply for possessing items I legally acquired and have never misused. This is not about public safety; criminals don't comply with magazine limits, so these restrictions only disarm honest people like me.

Similarly, HF 3433 would ban common semi-automatic rifles that are widely used for lawful self-defense, sport shooting, and in some cases hunting. Many of these firearms are in common use nationwide, protected under the Second Amendment, and banning them (even with limited grandfathering that includes registration, home inspections, and severe restrictions) violates our fundamental rights.

These bills treat law-abiding Minnesotans like potential criminals while failing to address the root causes of violence. You have no right to limit my firearms and magazines in this way—it infringes on my constitutional right to self-defense and the freedoms our state and nation were founded upon.

I respectfully ask that you vote against HF 3402 and HF 3433. Focus instead on prosecuting violent criminals, improving mental health resources, and supporting law enforcement—measures that actually make our communities safer without punishing responsible gun owners.

Thank you for your time and for considering my testimony. I am available if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Cindy Larson

Burnsville, MN 55337

Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Clayton Schlosser. I am a Minnesota resident, a firearms instructor, a small business owner, and a mental health advocate. I work directly with individuals every month on responsible firearm ownership, safe handling, situational awareness, and preparedness. I also actively advocate for bridging the gap between mental health and gun ownership because I believe public safety requires honest, comprehensive solutions.

am here today in strong opposition to House Bills 3433, 3654, and 3402. These bills do not target violent criminals. They target law-abiding citizens. As written, these proposals would impose sweeping restrictions and potential felony penalties on responsible individuals who have committed no crime. They risk turning everyday Minnesotans into criminals for possessing commonly owned firearms and standard-capacity magazines that are legal under current law and widely used for lawful purposes including self-defense and training. That is not public safety — that is criminalization of compliance.

As a firearms instructor, I see firsthand the level of responsibility, discipline, and education that responsible gun owners commit to. We emphasize safe storage, lawful carry, de-escalation, and ongoing training. The community I work with is not the problem.

As a mental health advocate, I also recognize that violence is complex. It involves crisis intervention, early identification, access to care, and community support. Limiting magazine capacity or banning commonly owned firearms does not address suicidal ideation, untreated trauma, or violent recidivism. If we are serious about saving lives, we must focus on meaningful mental health reform and intervention — not symbolic restrictions that fail to stop those already intent on breaking the law. Criminals do not comply with bans. They already ignore the law. These bills instead burden those who pass background checks, invest in training, and strive to act responsibly.

Additionally, the firearms and equipment being targeted are commonly owned nationwide and used by millions of law-abiding Americans. Broad prohibitions raise serious constitutional concerns and will likely result in prolonged litigation at taxpayer expense.

Public safety and constitutional rights are not mutually exclusive. We can address violence without stripping rights from responsible citizens. I respectfully urge you to vote NO on House Bills 3433, 3654, and 3402. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Clayton Schlosser
Minnesota Resident
Firearms Instructor & Mental Health Advocate

I'm writing to you as a lifelong Minnesotan, Democrat, and hunter. While my district is unfortunately not represented by the DFL, it is still affected by DFL proposals.

I am not one who makes guns part of my personality, nor do I fantasize about being in situations where the use of a gun is required. I hunt deer to feed my family and I have a handgun for home protection, I practice both to maintain competence.

While studies like the 2019 NIH article show some correlation between mass shootings and magazines larger than 10 rounds, I believe that this is a correlation rather than a causation. The time required to change magazines on a modern rifle or handgun is very small, especially with practice. There would be little difference between an assailant with a 10-round magazine and an assailant with a higher capacity magazine.

The proposed bill banning high capacity magazines also makes owning magazines from before the ban a felony unless they are modified to a smaller capacity. This puts a hardship on owners and has little chance of being enforced without being considered to be a mitigating factor in charges related to a concurrent crime. The majority of handguns used for protection are sold with 15 or 17 round magazines, including popular Glocks and Glock-like models.

In the wake of the recent ICE presence in Minnesota, many citizens are arming themselves for the first time. The DFL has the chance to use the negative reaction to this invasion to show that they stand with Minnesotans choosing to protect themselves. Chasing bans on magazine capacity and semiautomatic weapons will negate this shift in perception, especially in an election year, and has a good chance of being subject to a drawn out litigation in higher courts that have a dim view on gun control. This is a chance to capture the vote of the single issue voters who have now been told by Republican lawmakers that their second amendment right is now conditional.

Alex Pretti was murdered protecting a fellow citizen from injury. If these laws pass, he will be retroactively made a felon. Don't add fuel to the fire for those bad actors trying to portray him as a criminal. Use your powers to help Minnesotans, not restrict rights. Work to expand mental health treatment and end the trauma that drives mass shootings rather than fighting the symptoms. Continue providing social nets for our most vulnerable and punish those who try to exploit them. Let Minnesotans be capable of fighting tyranny and authoritarianism like we did in 1776 and 1863. Please vote against HF 3433 and HF 3402.

Sincerely,
Cody

HF 3402

HF 3433

Both bills are the same thing with minor changes bill 3433 is just 3402 but more penalties. Since it also makes it illegal to own firearms more than 10rds. Both of these bills should be trucked down as they go against the constitution. They impose harsh penalties against law-abiding citizens like myself and others. All that vote in favor of this bill are in favor for a tyrannical government. Which has shown itself to be true and go against the constitution time and time again. As with this presidency. A vast majority of gun owners store their weapons safely and securely. Anything that has involved a mass shooting in the United States has been done by people who have some type of mental health problems. Yet the answer is to strip law-abiding citizens of their rights and make it so only the government can assault people as shown with all these ICE attacks. A vote of yes for any of these bills is a vote for ICE and the Federal government to murder its own civilians in the streets with zero repercussions

- Coltin olsongreen

CONGRESSIONAL
SPORTSMEN'S
FOUNDATION

Attn: House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee
Re: HF 3402 & HF 3433 – Semiautomatic Firearm and Magazine Bans
Date: February 24, 2026
Position: Oppose

Honorable Members of the House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee,

I write to you today on behalf of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF) in opposition House File 3402 and House File 3433, a pair of bills that would prohibit sportsmen and women from enjoying our time-honored outdoor traditions by forbidding the purchase and practical use of certain commonly used firearms, ammunition, and magazines. Due to the harm that this legislation would have on conservation funding, wildlife population management efforts, and our storied sporting heritage in general, I respectfully urge the members of this Committee to reject the passage of this legislation.

Sportsmen and women are the backbone of wildlife conservation in the United States, and this is particularly true in Minnesota, where hunters and recreational shooters have generated more than \$1.5 billion dollars through the sale of hunting licenses and excise taxes collected on firearms and ammunition for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to carry out its mission. Not only do sportsmen and women fund conservation efforts through the unique "*user pays – public benefits*" American System of Conservation Funding, but hunting also serves as the most effective population management tool for conserving wildlife species.

This legislation would prohibit hunters and recreational shooters from purchasing firearms, ammunition, and magazines that are commonly used both afield and at the target range. Firearms such as modern sporting rifles and other semi-automatic firearms, including shotguns, which would be unavailable for purchase under this bill, are some of the most common firearms presently in circulation and are widely used for a variety of competitive and recreational shooting activities and hunting pursuits. Additionally, the magazines that this pair of bills deems to be "large-capacity" are in fact industry standard and not considered "large-capacity" in most states. Prohibiting their use places a financial burden on the many responsible Minnesotans that presently own semi-automatic firearms, as those gun owners will be forced to purchase additional equipment to utilize their firearms to conform with the requirements that this legislation would create. Further, manufacturers, who are the contributors of the aforementioned excise tax through the Pittman-Robertson Act (1937), would incur additional costs as they retool equipment used in the manufacturing process in a manner that aligns with this change in statute.

Additionally, this legislation would prohibit the use of a wide variety of other firearms popular among hunters, including shotguns equipped with pistol grips or thumbhole stocks. This would constitute yet another unnecessary barrier for participation in the time-honored outdoor traditions that Minnesotans have enjoyed for generations and serve to reverse the recruitment, retention, and reactivation efforts that this Legislature and the Minnesota DNR have emphasized in recent years.

This legislation harms law-abiding hunters and recreational shooters and interferes with their ability to enjoy their pastimes, a step that will have unintended consequences on the Minnesota DNR's funding, and thereby its effectiveness in conserving the State's natural resources. Sportsmen and women gladly shoulder the burden that is wildlife conservation in this country, and House File 3402 and House File 3433 jeopardizes their future ability to do so in Minnesota. I respectfully request that you reject the passage of these bills.

Sincerely,



Robert Matthews
Manager, Midwestern States
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation
rmatthews@congressionalsportsmen.org

Your Inside Connection to Outdoor Legislation

Honorable Chairs and members of the public safety committee,

My name is Connor Daine, I live in Minnesota House District 41A, and I'm writing in complete and total opposition to HF3433 and HF3402 in their text and in their intent.

This testimony is on behalf of my family to include my mother and father, my wife, and my infant daughter, but also the countless other peaceful and law-abiding men and women and their families who would be irreparably harmed by the passage and enforcement of this bill.

The social and political scene in the state of Minnesota shouldn't need to be explained to anyone. One only needs to look at recent tragedies in our schools and in the streets to see the growing entropy energy in the peaceful state I've lived my entire life in. Tears in the fabric of what is fast becoming a tenuous union is showing in small threads everywhere... It's graffiti'd on underpasses, shown on signs in front windows, and flown as a tapestry of different flags on front lawns all across the state.

Many of us are saddened, tired, and burnt out.

So, many often look to their leaders for guidance, and seek careful legislation to help such situations. Orders are issued, laws are passed, and all in such hopes that it either prevents future tragedies, limits their effects, and does so without manifestly bad consequences.

These bills do heaping piles of "none of the above", and in fact, will do quite the opposite. In a state with a known incidences of heavy handed law-enforcement tactics, and selective prosecution from state and county attorneys which the DFL and Republicans both acknowledge, I personally can't hope to see how these bills will do anything but foment further tragedy and further division, with no good outcomes.

These bills allegedly will try to remedy children being taken from their parents by a killer. In reality, law enforcement and prosecutors will take parents from their children if they happen to have a *part* of a contraband firearm.

Allegedly, they will try to protect the Minnesota public from guns. In reality, they will send armed

men to their homes without warrants, at any time of the day, to “inspect” such guns if they decided to comply with this law in good faith.

Allegedly, they will try to remedy the problem of those who use firearms for extraordinarily evil, by severely punishing those who’ve only ever been peaceful.

I speak for many Minnesotans when I say we’re so tired of tired solutions. We’re tired of “comply-or-else” ultimatums. We’re tired of our rights being trampled rather than secured by the people we elect to do so.

We’re tired of the psychic albatross hanging around our necks wondering if we’re going to be in prison this same time next year for doing nothing wrong, or being made outlaws by the stroke of a pen when we’ve only ever wanted to continue being the good Americans we’ve always been.

Yet, even when legislators have tried to increase penalties on the criminal element for the evil use of arms, the DFL continues to advocate for the criminal element by voting those bills down in favor of those, like this bill, they can wield at the public at large.

By the letter of these proposed laws many good Americans, myself, my wife, my father, and mother included, could be staring down consecutive sentences so severe and without statutory limitation that they could potentially serve beyond-life sentences for simple possession of items that it has never been illegal, or even questioned, to own.

In short, these are not bills for the sake of the safety of the public, but rather means for an attack on it, and the very foundations of good public life; Peaceful citizens and their families.

On behalf of myself, the rest my family, and your fellow citizens who don't want to be put in chains for the simple exercise of a presumed and court affirmed right. Please, oppose these bills in their entirety and vote no.

Written Testimony Opposing HF 3433 and HF 3402

Semi-Automatic Rifle Ban (HF 3433)

Magazine Ban (HF 3402)

Submitted by: Cory Birkemeyer, cory.birkemeyer@gmail.com

Plymouth, Minnesota

Personal Testimony

Chair Novotny, Chair Moller, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Cory Birkemeyer, and I live in Plymouth, Minnesota. This is my personal testimony in opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402.

I am a law-abiding citizen. I follow the law. I vote. I pay taxes. I raise my family here. The firearms and magazines targeted by these bills are owned by millions of Americans for lawful purposes. We are not the problem.

HF 3433 would ban commonly owned semi-automatic rifles, including the AR-15. These rifles are among the most commonly owned in America and are often referred to as "America's rifle." They are used for lawful self-defense, training, and sport. In *District of Columbia v. Heller* (2008), the Supreme Court held that arms in common use for lawful purposes are protected by the Second Amendment. In *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen* (2022), the Court held that modern firearm regulations must be consistent with this Nation's historical tradition of firearm regulation. HF 3433 would prohibit arms that are in common lawful use and lack any historical tradition of categorical prohibition, placing it in direct conflict with those standards.

HF 3402 would ban possession of magazines holding more than ten rounds. Standard-capacity magazines are the ordinary configuration for modern firearms. In a defensive situation, a citizen does not control how many attackers there may be. Capacity limits do not stop criminals. They limit the ability of responsible citizens to defend themselves and their families.

The most revealing aspect of these bills is that they exempt law enforcement. If a firearm is deemed too dangerous for ordinary citizens, why is it appropriate for agents of the state? The Constitution secures the right to keep and bear arms to "the people," not to a professional class. A right reserved to government personnel is not a right. It is a privilege reserved to power.

The right of self-defense is not granted by government, and it is not subject to negotiation or compromise. It is a natural right and even a duty to protect one's life, family, and community. Denying citizens the means to exercise that right forces dependence, diminishes dignity, and elevates criminals over the law-abiding.

When a law-abiding citizen stops an attack and saves a life, that outcome is real. The right to keep and bear arms exists because evil exists and citizens sometimes must confront it. Defensive use proves this right protects innocent life. It stands on its own moral footing regardless of criminal misuse. The right to self-defense is fundamental.

Public safety matters. I want safe communities as much as anyone. But these bills target citizens who obey the law rather than those who commit violent crimes.

I respectfully ask you to reject HF 3433 and HF 3402.

Respectfully submitted,
Cory Birkemeyer
Plymouth, Minnesota

FEBRUARY 23, 2026

HOUSE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS,

I am submitting my testimony in opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402.

I long held strong gun control was the only sensible, compassionate view to hold. I was very much in the camp of “no one needs a semi-automatic rifle, especially with the ability to hold many rounds at once.”

I live in south Minneapolis, walking distance from where George Floyd, Renée Good, and Alex Pretti were murdered. My experience living so close to those events, the fallout from them, and the general rise in threats of political violence as well as actual state violence against my family and neighbors has shown me that I was wrong about that stance. Most people around me that shared my prior view, at least now hold a complicated view on the topic, if they don't also fully agree with that change in stance.

HF 3433 would *primarily* limit the ability for marginalized and vulnerable populations to protect themselves, at a time when the need for protection is becoming painfully clear. I've seen years of threats of violence against my community. How many of those making those threats already have rifles that would be banned, and they would keep them under the proposed text. Those that have been threatened, including people I know personally, will be forced to accept they have limited means to protect themselves, if this bill passes. When you add into that situation, the recognition that we've just experienced a federal agency invade our state and blatantly violate constitutional rights with a force larger than the initial invasion of Afghanistan, this seems like an unwise time to propose such bill.

HF 3402 does little to protect the community as well, since it functionally creates a mild inconvenience to anyone wishing to do harm, as anyone in the metro would only need to make a 2 hour round trip to acquire the magazines that would be banned.

Effective policies to limit the risk of gun violence exist, but these are not them.

REGARDS,

D. MEYER

Hello,

I am submitting this comment to **voice my TOTAL and ABSOLUTE OPPOSITION to these two (2) bills (HF 3433 & HF 3402)**. They are an infringement on my rights as an American. Passing these bills will make tens of thousands of law abiding citizens criminals.

DO NOT PASS THESE BILLS

HF 3433 - Semi-Automatic Rifle Ban

HF 3402 - Total Ban on Possession of Magazines holding more than 10 rounds

Thank You,
Dan Kessem

To the House Public Safety Committee,

I am writing in opposition of HF 3433 and HF 3402. HF3433 bans pretty much all semiautomatic rifles, not by how they function but if they have one or more of certain features. For example, one of the most popular small game hunting rifles the Ruger 10/22 has many models that work the exact same way, but this bill would ban some but not others. Model 1103 would not be banned but model 11112 would be banned because it has a threaded barrel with a flash suppressor. Ruger also makes the Ruger Mini 14; it functions the same way as an AR-15 that has most if not all of the features you want to ban but, has none of them. Again, it works the exact same way without the banned features. All the features that make the firearm easier to fire accurately could be removed from any banned firearm to make it legal but, that is not what the legal responsible firearm owner wants or purchased. HF 3433 also exempts any government officer, agent or employee, member of US armed forces or police officer. Legal, responsible, firearm owners should be able to protect themselves, families and others with the same firearms that are protecting you, and also use them for hunting and sport shooting.

The requirements for current owners to keep semiautomatic military-assault weapons are ridiculous, we have the right to bear arms without having to jump through hoops. These requirements would immediately be ruled as unconstitutional if applied to any other right, and should be here too. Could we only have the right to free speech on property owned or immediately controlled by us? Should a voter registration need to be renewed every three years for a fee? This bill allows law enforcement to enter a home with no warrant and to confiscate/destroy property without compensation. All of which are unconstitutional.

HF 3433 bans all magazines that hold more than 10 rounds. Most semiautomatic firearms purchased come with a magazine that holds more than 10 rounds and would be considered standard capacity by the manufacturer. Do you really believe that if HF 3433 passes that somebody that wants to commit a mass shooting is going to use a 10-round magazine because it would be illegal to use a larger one? This bill only effects legal, law-abiding firearm owners. This bill also exempts any government officer, agent or employee, member of US armed forces or police officer. Legal, responsible firearm owners should be able to protect themselves, families and others with the standard magazines that came with their firearm or, higher capacity magazines purchased later.

I suggest that instead of punishing law-abiding firearm owners, you punish the criminals with stronger mandatory sentencing for using a firearm during a crime, increased more if a semiautomatic military-style assault weapon is used and increased again for using a magazine larger than 10 rounds during the crime.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana Alan Nelson

Excelsior, MN

02/22/2025

RE: Opposition to Proposed Restrictive Firearm Legislation

Dear MN Legislature,

As a constituent and a law-abiding gun owner in Minnesota, I am writing to express my firm opposition to the current suite of proposed gun control measures. While I believe we all want to ensure public safety, I believe the legislation currently under consideration misses the mark by targeting the rights of peaceful citizens rather than addressing the root causes of crime and holding actual criminals accountable. We can not, and will not, solve crime by making law-abiding citizens criminals.

I urge you to vote **NO** on these proposals for the following reasons:

- **Infringement on Constitutional Rights:** The Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and the inherent right to self-defense are foundational. Proposed restrictions, such as magazine capacity restrictions without robust due process or bans on commonly owned firearms, place an unconstitutional burden on law-abiding Minnesotans.
- **Ineffectiveness Against Criminals:** History and data often show that people intent on committing crimes do not follow the law. Restrictive measures primarily serve to disarm the vulnerable and the law-abiding, creating "gun-free zones" that criminals frequently exploit. This can be clearly seen by the carnage created when criminals attack the current "gun-free" zones.
- **Focus on Enforcement of Current Laws:** Rather than creating new layers of bureaucracy for legal owners, our state should prioritize the enforcement of existing laws.
- **The Burden on Sportsmen and Self-Defense:** Many of the proposed regulations would criminalize standard equipment used for hunting, competitive shooting, and personal protection, making it more difficult for citizens to exercise their rights safely and legally. In addition, MN Permit to Carry holders are among our safest and most law-abiding citizens.

I ask that you stand up for the constitutional rights of your constituents and reject these overreaching mandates. Our focus should remain on policies that penalize criminal behavior and protect the liberties of all Minnesotans.

Thank you for your time and for your service to our great state. I encourage you to vote **NO** on all of the proposed gun control measures.

Sincerely,

Dana Penkivech

Apple Valley, MN

FROM THE DESK OF

DANNY HORMANN

February 20, 2026

Minnesota House of Representatives

“I do solemnly swear—or affirm—that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God.

That’s what you swore. Every single one of you. Not a suggestion—a promise.

Mr. Chairman,

Members of the Committee—

The Second Amendment isn’t just a relic; it’s a firewall. ‘A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.’ That comma after ‘Militia’ isn’t punctuation—it’s philosophy. The framers didn’t trust standing armies; they trusted armed citizens.

You took that oath to defend every word—including this one. Not ‘except when polls say otherwise.’ Not ‘unless it’s politically inconvenient.’ Not ‘unless HF 3380 or HF 3433 looks good on a campaign flyer.’ You promised to protect it against enemies—foreign, domestic, or even... bureaucratic.

Look at the data: FBI stats show ninety-four percent of mass shootings happen in gun-free zones. Chicago’s strict laws? Homicide rate’s three times the national average. Meanwhile, concealed-carry states like Texas and Florida—where law-abiding folks can defend themselves—see lower violent crime per capita.

And let’s be real: magazine limits don’t stop criminals—they just hamstring the good guys. A thirty-round mag isn’t ‘assault weapon’ territory; it’s math. If you’re facing two or three attackers—like in that Atlanta spa shooting—ten rounds might not cut it. You don’t get a timeout to reload. Same goes for banning styles of weapons—no ARs, no semis, no ‘military-looking’ rifles. The framers didn’t write ‘shall not be infringed... unless it’s scary-looking.’

This isn't about muskets anymore. It's about deterrence. When a predator knows the mom at the grocery store might be packing—and has enough ammo and the right tool to finish the job—he thinks twice. Strip that right, and you hand power back to the state—or worse, the bad guys.

I urge you: live up to your oath. No magazine caps. No bans on styles of weapons. Defend the Constitution you swore to—every line.

Thank you for your attention to this matter,

Danny Hormann
3480 Queens Rd SE
Alexandria MN 56308

I am writing you to voice my strong opposition to any ban on commonly owned semi-automatic firearms or standard-capacity magazines. Specifically HF 3402 and HF 3433.

These firearms are widely used by law-abiding Minnesotans for self-defense, hunting, sport shooting, and training, and are protected by the Second Amendment. Banning them will not improve public safety; it will only penalize responsible citizens while criminals ignore the law.

While I support the Minnesota Gun Owners Caucus, I am speaking directly for myself in asking you to oppose these measures.

Dave O'Brien
Oak Grove, MN
dave@dmobrien.com

Dear Ms. McDaniel,

I am writing to express my opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402. As a law-abiding citizen of Minnesota, I believe these bills represent an unnecessary infringement on my Second Amendment rights. Measures like these will be ignored by those who commit acts of violence, while placing additional burdens on responsible citizens who follow the law.

Thank you for ensuring that my concerns are shared with the appropriate members of the committee.

Sincerely,

David Jansen

Hello, I'm an MN resident and a former soldier of the US Army and MN Guard.

These bills are frankly garbage. Not only would they turn law-abiding citizens into felons overnight and create even more division between the government and the people it's supposed to support, but it's also plain to see that these bills are written by those who know little to nothing about firearms and where we as a community stand on them.

It's also blatantly obvious that those who are governing us are either tone deaf or acting maliciously against its own citizens. To ban its own citizens from "certain" firearms but still allowing those who enforce whatever laws they deem is frankly tyrannical. These would allow ICE and other supposed Law Enforcement capabilities that they shouldn't have when they push laws onto their citizens. This is becoming more and more blatantly and disrespectfully "laws for thee but not me".

30-round magazines are standard. Not a large capacity, you can argue an opinion against it, but it's still a fact that the 30-round is standard. The list of certain actions, functions, and features essentially makes all firearms banned. Do you realize that firearms sales and permits in the state of Minnesota have skyrocketed in the last year? Not only does this kill any attempt at defense, but it also kills any show that the government is willing to support its people against tyranny and its actors. On top of that, giving the ability to randomly search a person's house is incredibly problematic and extremely questionable. We already have ICE showing complete disregard for the 4th amendment why not just tell us the Constitution doesn't actually matter anymore?

Suppose you actually want to do something to support its people. Nationalize healthcare and psychiatric help. Give us a universal basic income, as so many other countries have. Block real estate development by private equity and allow for empty houses to be used by the homeless. Stop the divide between the high and supposedly mighty and support those at their lowest.

Do the right thing and support people, not take their rights.

-SPC. Jones

To the Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee,

I am writing to strongly urge you to oppose any proposed ban on commonly owned semi-automatic firearms, standard-capacity magazines, or similar legislation. These firearms and magazines are used every day by peaceable Minnesotans for self-defense, hunting, sport shooting, and training — and they are clearly protected under the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Constitution of the United States

Second Amendment

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

Banning them will not make Minnesota safer. It will only punish law-abiding gun owners while doing nothing to stop criminals who ignore the law. I expect you to vote NO on any attempt to ban semi-automatic firearms or magazines. The second amendment to the constitution is clear. “Shall not be infringed.”

I am a member and supporter of the Minnesota Gun Owners Caucus. Thank you for your service & dedication to protecting all Minnesotans.

Curate ut valeatis

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Lubowitz". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

David Lubowitz
1292 10th ave St Cloud MN 56303
320-492-2447

Good evening.

I write to you to express my extreme opposition to bills HF-3433 and HF-3402. I will not stand for any more of my 2nd amendment rights to be infringed upon and I will never support anyone who does not oppose these bills.

I strongly urge not to advance these bills which only impede the rights of law abiding citizens and will do nothing to mitigate crime, it will only leave victims defenseless.

Thank you,

Derek Hurd
District 58B

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402. These bills represent an unprecedented restriction on the constitutional rights of myself and other law-abiding Minnesotans while doing little to stop criminal activity.

The HF 3433 bill, aka the semiautomatic ban, bans firearms in common use for self-defense and sport. The "certification" process is overly intrusive, violates the 4th amendment of me and other Minnesotans, who are not the issue. The imposed and unknown fee prevents people with low income of maintaining the means in self-defense.

As a sport shooter and hunter, the move to ban these weapons for is misguided. I didn't choose this equipment by accident for hunting. I chose it specifically because it is the safest option for me and my kids. By restricting our ability to use these tools, the law is actually removing the safety safeguards I rely on to protect my children while we are out in the field or in the woods.

Regarding HF 3402, the magazine ban: By banning magazines over 10 rounds with no grandfather clause, this bill turns thousands of responsible citizens into felons overnight. It mandates the destruction or surrender of private property without compensation.

If you truly wish to proceed with these bans, then make sure you don't exempt law enforcement or the federal agents that are running around and kidnapping Minnesotans. By exempting them, you are only targeting the citizens of Minnesota, who are NOT the issue.

These measures penalize law-abiding citizens for the actions of criminals. I urge you to reconsider these bills and instead focus on enforcing existing laws and addressing mental health.

Respectfully,

Derek Roadway

SE Rochester, MN

derekroadway@gmail.com

HF3433; HF3403

Ms. McDaniel:

I'm a MN citizen writing in opposition to the two proposed firearms laws, HF3433 and HF3402. Now, I am a staunch DFLer and have been active in local party politics for years. As the party has shifted to one that has further consolidated its base of power in the metro area, while slowly losing support in rural areas, it has been harder and harder for me to make the case to my neighbors to vote DFL.

I know we all agree that gun violence is unacceptable and mass shootings, while statistically very rare, terrorize the public.

That said, I don't think these new laws will do much to preserve public safety, but will further drive responsible gun owners from the Democratic party. (I am firmly unconcerned about courting the _irresponsible_ gun owner vote.)

Semiautomatic firearms are widely used in hunting. My first gun, a .22 caliber squirrel rifle, had a semi-automatic action. AR15s, which are semi-automatic, are often outfitted with wooden stocks and look, to the average person, indistinguishable from any other deer hunting rifle. Growing up in rural Stearns County, everyone I knew had firearms (some that were passed down for generations) in their homes. For those who didn't grow up this way, this might feel uncomfortable. I have a lot of trouble trying to impress upon folks who didn't grow up with guns how important shooting and hunting is to people who did. Restrictions on very common rifles feels like a personal attack and a further attack on rural culture.

In places where police response times are long, many people feel safer with home defense weapons. Semiautomatic rifles and pistols are the first choice for many people for home defense.

I often see legislation proposed by people who are not familiar with firearms and am frustrated that people seem to be talking past one another. I don't know your background, but I hope you have had the chance to take some classes and familiarize yourself with the firearms you're trying to regulate. Semiautomatic guns are very, very common and the action is represented in nearly every class of firearm: hunting rifles, pistols, shot guns, rim fire rifles, etc.

As for 30 round magazine restrictions, I don't see this being a great benefit to public safety, but it will instantly make thousands of Minnesotans criminals for possessing a common magazine size, create more work for law enforcement, and give more opportunities for police to intrude in our lives.

Mass shootings are extremely rare. Access to large capacity magazines might make it slightly easier for a mass shooter to fire more rounds. This seems like a very small risk to the public, even if mass shooting events cause outsized public hysteria.

Unfortunately, the NRA has been able to successfully lobby to prevent meaningful research on the effects of gun control legislation on gun deaths, so it is difficult to see if laws like the ones being proposed will benefit the public. I do know that Minnesotans have a high rate of gun ownership, but proportionately low rates of gun crimes. I appreciate living in a state where people behave responsibly without legislation compelling it.

I have been working all across the country in states like FL, TX, ME, IN, CA, etc., where gun laws vary dramatically. I am proud to live somewhere with few restrictions and I attribute it to responsible behavior. People I have talked to in other states usually assume we have strict

regulations. Since Minnesotans have been largely responsible gun owners, further gun control legislation feels needlessly punitive.

I think the proposed gun laws will not improve public safety and will further turn already mistrustful citizens away from civic life generally (and the Democratic party specifically.)

Thanks,
Dirk Zwack
CD11B

Hello,

I am writing as a Minnesota resident, an Independent, but Democrat leaning voter, and a responsible gun owner to express my **opposition** to **HF 3433** and **HF 3402**.

I recently became a lawful owner of a semi-automatic rifle, which I use strictly for recreational target shooting at a local range. For me, shooting is a safe, structured activity that provides stress relief and enjoyment after work. I follow all laws, store my firearms responsibly, and take safety seriously.

I am concerned that these bills broadly target commonly owned firearms and magazines that millions of Americans, including many Minnesotans, legally own and use safely. Semi-automatic firearms are not unusual or uniquely dangerous; they are among the most common firearms in circulation. Prohibiting them or restricting magazine capacity would primarily affect law-abiding citizens rather than those who commit crimes.

As a Democrat, I strongly believe in evidence-based policy. I support measures that address violence at its root causes — including mental health access, community intervention programs, and enforcing existing laws — rather than imposing sweeping bans that impact responsible owners like me.

I want to be candid: continued efforts to broadly restrict lawful firearm ownership make it difficult for voters like me to feel represented within the Democratic Party. I value many core Democratic principles, but I also believe that protecting constitutional rights and supporting responsible gun ownership should not be mutually exclusive.

I respectfully ask you to reconsider support for HF 3433 and HF 3402 and instead pursue solutions that focus on criminal misuse of firearms while respecting the rights of law-abiding Minnesotans.

Thank you for your time and service to our state.

Sincerely,

Doug Janni
Mankato, Minnesota
Email: dougjanni@gmail.com
February 19th, 2026

Dear legislators,

I am writing you because I am strongly against the proposed gun laws in the Minnesota legislature. HF3433 may sound good on paper but it will turn most legal gun owners into felons overnight. It seems very authoritative and fascist like to register currently legal firearms and have the government come into private residences for inspection of these firearms. That sure seems like government overreach to me.

I have been a coach of a high school trap shooting team for eight years. While some of the student athletes use an over under or pump shotgun, some use a semi-automatic. It is my understanding that these would be banned as well. This will put undo hardship on the student athletes in having to buy another gun to compete or make it almost impossible to get their firearm to the range for practice or competition.

Or they may drop out of the sport completely.

High school shooting sports are a very popular activity with more students competing in this than in high school hockey. Many students who participate in high school shooting sports will continue on with the sport in their college career.

Banning semi-automatic weapons will not do what you think it will as this law will only affect legal gun owners like myself.

If this law passes, it will cause undo hardship on most legal gun owners as we will either have to pay a fee to the government and register them (just another tax) or dispose of them.

The proposed HF3402 law that bans magazines larger than 10 rounds will turn many older guns into paper weights. This law doesn't just affect newly manufactured firearms. It will also affect guns that were made decades ago. Many gun owners have older guns that fit this and came with magazine capacity great than ten.

I currently own a couple of handguns that were made in the 1960's that have magazines of 11 and 14 rounds. Smaller capacity magazines are not available. If HF3402 passes, these handguns would become useless in this scenario.

I am very disappointed that democrats in Minnesota are trying to pass laws like this that will turn most legal gun owners into felons overnight.

Thanks for your time,

Doug Swanson

70 County Road F West

Vadnais Heights, MN 55127

In recent debates gun policy in Minnesota, House Files 3433 and 3654 have been promoted as meaningful responses to firearm violence. However, a closer look suggests these measures risk burdening law-abiding citizens far more than they deter criminals. While public safety is a goal shared across the political spectrum, legislation must be evaluated on whether it addresses the root causes of crime—or merely adds new hurdles for responsible gun owners.

One of the central concerns surrounding HF 3433 and HF 3654 is that they focus primarily on additional regulations, expanded restrictions, and compliance requirements for individuals who already follow the law. Criminals, by definition, do not adhere to firearm regulations. They obtain weapons through illegal channels, theft, or the black market. Expanding paperwork, waiting periods, or storage mandates will complicate life for responsible citizens, but those intent on committing violent acts are will not be deterred by more statutes they will ignore.

Moreover, critics argue that these bills raise serious constitutional questions. The Second Amendment to the United States Constitution protects the right of the people to keep and bear arms. The U.S. Supreme Court has repeatedly affirmed that this right applies to individual citizens for lawful purposes such as self-defense. Broad or overly restrictive measures that significantly impair access to firearms risk crossing a constitutional line. Legislation that effectively limits the practical ability of law-abiding adults to exercise their rights invites legal challenge and deepens public distrust.

Effective violence prevention requires targeting violent offenders, improving mental health interventions & enforcing existing laws. Policies that concentrate on those already complying with the law will create a false sense of action while leaving underlying criminal behavior unaddressed.

Public safety and constitutional liberty need not be opposing values. But durable solutions must be narrowly tailored, evidence-based, and focused on those who commit crimes—not on responsible citizens exercising a fundamental right.

Douglas D. Willetts

Eagan, MN

651-900-2908

Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Edward Hoiland. I am a U.S. citizen, an immigrant, a partner, and above all a proud Minnesotan. I love the Twin Cities and the amazing communities that make it my home. I've voted Democrat in every major election in my adult life.

I'm submitting this testimony because HF 3433 and HF 3402 would make Minnesota less safe, less fair, and less free for ordinary people like myself and my neighbors.

These bills don't focus on misuse or violence. They focus on possession. They would turn thousands of everyday, law-abiding Minnesotans into criminals overnight based solely on property they purchased legally and kept responsibly.

Laws like this don't get enforced evenly. And they land on the communities that are victimized most. Working-class people, renters, immigrants, people of color, legal observers, peaceful protesters, Minnesotans who *already* used to being stopped, searched, questioned, and monitored. That's not theoretical. It's how possession-based laws have worked in practice.

Over the past few months, Minnesotans have watched abusive powers of federal enforcement unfold in our streets and homes. ICE violence. Mistaken detentions. People questioned or detained who had every legal right to be here. So a bill that proposes warrantless inspections and forced registration raises *serious* civil liberties concerns, especially given recent events.

When the government shows it's willing to use force first and sort out the details later like with Good and Pretti, people adapt. Especially immigrants. Especially queer people. Especially communities that already know what it's like to be on the receiving end of "oops, wrong person. sorry"

Laws that strip lawful self-defense from ordinary people while expanding state authority does not feel like safety, it feels like abuse of power.

The gun ownership demographic has changed. It's not just rural conservatives. It's immigrants, LGBTQ+ people, people of color, and urban progressives who no longer assume institutions will protect them. People aren't buying firearms because they want violence, they're responding to hate crimes, abuse of power, instability, and real failures of our leadership. If you want us to trust government bodies again, these bills are not the way.

These bills will expand state power, criminalize people who aren't the problem, and hit hardest in the communities Minnesota claims to stand up for.

I urge you to oppose HF 3433 and HF 3402 and focus on solutions that actually reduce violence without sacrificing our civil liberties or our trust.

Thank you for listening.

Edward Hoiland
Saint Paul, Minnesota

HF 3433 – Semi-Automatic Rifle Ban

HF 3402 – Total Ban on Possession of Magazines holding more than 10 rounds

I oppose these bills.

I left WA after a magazine ban was passed and thought that I would not be able to access new magazines to replace the old ones as needed. But now this bill tells me I need to destroy any magazines I have, just because there's a feeling that some law must pass to say you've done something to your constituents. HF 3402 will make every law abiding gun owner lose access to magazines that hold more than 10 rounds. But how will that prevent criminals from keeping theirs?

Just after I left WA an "assault weapon" ban took place. People could no longer purchase some firearms. These arms were deemed more dangerous based on arbitrary features. And HF3433 will do something similar. These rifles are banned only based on specific features. Features that, when I'm not home, make it easier for my partner to protect the few chickens we have from predators. Or God forbid, it prevents her from defending herself if needed from those that would attempt to do us harm. We might not have the luxury of waiting 10 to 15 minutes for the Sheriff to respond.

These bills are making me question my decision of moving here.

I oppose these bills.

Ellen McDaniel
Committee Administrator – DFL Caucus
Public Safety Finance & Policy Committee
Minnesota State Capitol
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, Saint Paul, MN 55155
Ellen.McDaniel@house.mn.gov
651-296-1478

February 2, 2026

Eric Rosten
10925 Wayzata Blvd
Apt. 206
Minnetonka, MN 55305
ericrosten@hotmail.com
763-498-2580

Mrs. Ellen McDaniel,

I am writing today as a Minnesota constituent to express my strong opposition to two House bills that have entered Committee:

HF 3433 - Semi-Automatic Rifle Ban
by Rep. Emma Greenman (DFL, HF 63B)

This bill is a total ban on the sale, transfer, and possession of almost all semi-automatic rifles in Minnesota. There is grandfathering applicable to the current owner only with no transfers allowed. A certificate must be obtained at an unknown cost, law enforcement must inspect your home for “safe storage” whenever they want without a warrant, and the firearm can only be kept at home or at a “licensed firing range”. Hunting with such firearms is prohibited.

This bill will greatly penalize and restrict law-abiding firearm owning Minnesota Citizens and do nothing to prevent firearms crimes committed by criminals who do not observe the law. It also compromises the sanctity of home and privacy, by subjecting citizens to illegal and unconstitutional searches and seizures of legally owned private property.

I am strongly opposed to this bill and urge you to vote “no” on this bill and all such gun control measures. This bill is in direct violation to the Second and Fourth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

HF 3402 - Total Ban on Possession of Magazines holding more than 10 rounds
by Rep. Brad Tabke (DFL, HD 54A)

This bill is a total ban on the manufacture, sale, transfer, and possession of all firearm magazines capable of holding more than ten rounds. There is no grandfathering. Magazines must be destroyed, turned into law enforcement, or moved out of state by July 1st, 2026.

This bill will greatly penalize and restrict law-abiding firearm owning Minnesota Citizens and do nothing to prevent firearms crimes committed by criminals who do not observe the law. Firearm magazines—of standard capacity—are legally owned devices required for safe and responsible operation of firearms, are in common use, and are defined as firearms under the Constitution.

I am strongly opposed to this bill and urge you to vote “no” on this bill and all such gun control measures. This bill is in direct violation to the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Thank you for taking my written testimony, and for representing me at the Minnesota State Capitol,

Sincerely,
Eric Rosten

Written Testimony in Opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402

Submitted to the House Public Safety Committee

From: Erik Colson, Mound, Minnesota

Date: February 23, 2026

Subject: Respectful opposition to HF 3433 (semi-automatic firearm ban) and HF 3402 (large-capacity magazine ban)

Chair and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony. I respectfully ask you to oppose HF 3433 and HF 3402.

I am writing as a law-abiding Minnesotan with deep family ties to service. My grandfather served in the military. My brother is currently active duty in the Middle East. I also serve here in Mound through the fire department. I understand public safety as a real responsibility, not an abstract talking point.

I support enforcing laws against violent offenders, illegal trafficking, and criminal misuse of firearms. I do not support legislation that broadly criminalizes ordinary ownership and possession by responsible citizens who have done nothing wrong.

Why I oppose HF 3433

HF 3433 goes far beyond targeting criminal misuse. As written, it expands the definition of "semiautomatic military-style assault weapon" to include many commonly owned firearms based on features such as a detachable magazine, pistol grip or thumbhole stock, folding or telescoping stock, barrel shroud, or flash suppressor. It also reaches some pistols, shotguns, and parts or conversion kits.

The bill would make it unlawful to transfer, own, or possess covered firearms, while carving out exceptions for government, military, and law enforcement use. That creates one set of rules for the state and another for ordinary citizens.

For current owners, the bill requires a certification process with the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and local law enforcement, recurring renewals, compliance with future storage regulations, and an agreement to allow inspection of storage for compliance. It also bars future transfers except surrender for destruction.

A violation of the possession prohibition or certain compliance provisions can be charged as a felony with up to five years of imprisonment, a fine of up to \$25,000, or both.

In practical terms, HF 3433 punishes compliance-minded Minnesotans while doing little to stop violent offenders who, by definition, do not obey weapons laws.

Why I oppose HF 3402

HF 3402 similarly makes it unlawful to manufacture, import, transfer, own, or possess magazines capable of holding more than ten rounds.

For current owners, the bill requires surrender, destruction, permanent modification, or removal from the state within the compliance window. Violation is punishable as a felony with up to five years of imprisonment, a fine of up to \$25,000, or both.

This bill again places the burden on law-abiding people who already comply with Minnesota and federal law, rather than focusing resources on violent repeat offenders and those who misuse firearms during crimes.

Public safety concerns with these approaches

As someone who serves in the fire department, I care deeply about reducing violence and protecting families. Broad bans and possession-based felony penalties for ordinary citizens are not the same as targeted crime prevention.

Minnesota would be better served by measures that are focused, enforceable, and directly tied to violent behavior: prosecuting prohibited possessors who commit crimes, addressing repeat violent offenders, improving mental health crisis response, strengthening trafficking enforcement, and supporting lawful training and safe storage education without turning lawful owners into felons.

I also ask the committee to consider the impact on families, inheritance, and property rights. HF 3433 and HF 3402 require surrender, destruction, permanent inoperability, or removal from the state in ways that are deeply burdensome to people who acquired their property lawfully.

Closing request

Please vote NO on HF 3433 and HF 3402.

If the legislature wishes to improve public safety, I urge you to pursue policies that target criminal conduct and violent misuse while respecting the rights of responsible Minnesotans, including veterans, first responders, and working families.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Erik Colson
Mound, Minnesota

Note: This testimony intentionally contains no hyperlinks for committee submission formatting.

All representatives took an oath to the U.S. Constitution, of which the 2nd Amendment is an important part, and the proposed bills:

HF 3433: A ban on the possession of most semi-automatic rifles

HF 3402: A total ban on the possession of magazines holding more than ten rounds
are violations of those oaths.

Kill these bills as they only add to the over \$9 billion in fraud with which disgraceful government officials have globally embarrassed the law-abiding, peaceful, taxpaying citizens of Minnesota. For people who espouse so much concern for minorities, you trample so freely on the smallest minority of all: the individual. That's expected of collectivists.

"But I, being poor, have only my dreams;
I have spread my dreams under your feet;
Tread softly because you tread on my dreams."
- W.B. Yeats

Dear Rep McDaniel,

I am a resident of Chanhassen and I am writing you to express my opposition to HF3434 and HF3402. Along with contacting you, I have already contacted my local representatives.

I absolutely support efforts to reduce violence and improve public safety. That said, I don't think this bill gets at the root of the problem. National data consistently show that the majority of firearm deaths are suicides (roughly 55–60% in recent CDC mortality data), and many firearm homicides tend to be concentrated among repeat offenders, gang activity, or other criminal contexts rather than typical lawful gun owners. Policies that focus on mental health intervention and violent offenders seem more likely to make a real difference.

It's also worth noting that Minnesota already has a background check system in place for many firearm purchases. Buying a pistol or so-called "military-style" rifle generally requires either a permit to purchase or a permit to carry, both of which involve a background check through the local sheriff or police department. Law-abiding owners are already going through a formal vetting process, so additional blanket restrictions feel redundant rather than targeted.

Many of the firearms and magazines targeted here are owned by responsible citizens for legitimate purposes like home defense, hunting, and recreational shooting. This proposal risks turning otherwise responsible people into felons over equipment they've legally owned for years.

I'm also concerned about the registration requirements, recurring certification, possible storage inspections, and the severity of the penalties. The possibility of felony charges for compliance mistakes feels excessive and could undermine trust between citizens and government.

Lastly, a 2024 study by the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) found that approximately 74% (roughly 717 million) of the 963 million magazines produced or imported between 1990 and 2021 have a capacity of 11 or more rounds.

If 74% of all magazines have a capacity of 11 or more rounds, that makes these standard capacity, not large capacity. These are in common use by lawful Minnesotans.

I hope you'll consider approaches that focus more directly on preventing suicide, addressing repeat violent offenders, strengthening mental health resources, and enforcing existing laws rather than imposing broad new bans.

Thank you for your time and for your service to Minnesota.

Sincerely

Gavin Keithly

Representative McDaniel,

I am writing to urge you to oppose HF3433 and HF3402.

These bills are based on the assumption that restricting lawful firearm ownership will reduce violent crime. That assumption is not supported by evidence.

Violent crime is overwhelmingly driven by repeat offenders who already ignore existing laws. The vast majority of gun crimes are committed with illegally possessed firearms, not by law-abiding permit holders. Additional restrictions on lawful ownership do not meaningfully impact those actors, but they do burden citizens who already comply with the law.

States and cities with the most restrictive gun laws continue to experience high rates of gun violence, while many states with higher lawful ownership rates do not. The determining factors are enforcement, prosecution, and repeat-offender incapacitation—not the creation of new regulations for people who are already following the rules.

If the goal is to save lives, the data consistently points to:

- Targeting repeat violent offenders
- Enforcing existing laws
- Prosecuting illegal possession and straw purchasing
- Investing in mental health intervention and community-based violence prevention

HF3433 and HF3402 do none of these effectively. Instead, they create a false sense of action while diverting resources away from strategies that actually reduce harm.

Public safety should be driven by results, not optics. For that reason, I respectfully ask you to oppose HF3433 and HF3402.

Sincerely,
Gene Truman Cox IV
Crystal, MN

Opposition Summary to Minnesota HF 3402 – Large-Capacity Magazine Ban

HF 3402 would criminalize possession of commonly owned firearm magazines, effectively disarming law-abiding citizens while doing little to stop violent criminals. This bill forces ordinary Minnesotans to depend on delayed police response for their personal safety, even though emergency response times often exceed several minutes when seconds matter. Criminals do not follow gun laws, meaning this legislation primarily impacts responsible citizens, families, elderly individuals, and rural residents who rely on self-defense. Standard-capacity magazines are normal factory equipment for many firearms, and banning them would turn otherwise lawful gun owners into felons for mere possession. HF 3402 punishes compliance, not crime, erodes fundamental civil liberties, and creates only the illusion of safety while leaving citizens more vulnerable. True public safety requires stronger law enforcement staffing, faster emergency response, and harsher penalties for violent offenders — not disarming responsible Minnesotans.

Representative McDaniel,

I'm writing to you in response to HF 3433 and HF 3402. These bills are unconstitutional. Enacting such measures serves no purpose except to turn law abiding citizens into criminals, as criminals - by definition - don't follow laws. Bills like this will not remove guns from the hands of criminals, or reduce their effectiveness. It will only serve to handicap citizens from self-defense and trample our constitutional rights to bear arms.

The obvious infringement to the 2nd amendment should be plain to anyone capable of reading the Bill of Rights. Police being permitted to enter homes without warrants is an infringement of the 4th amendment. Rep. Emma Greenman and Rep. Brad Tabke, as well as any representative who supports such measures, are unfit for duty as they are breaking the oaths they took upon entering into office.

I implore you to not just table such heinous bills, but to kill them entirely. Make it clear to the House, make it clear to your constituents, make it clear to the nation that the representatives of Minnesota are not traitors to our nation.

The events of late have left me in little doubt that this state desires the sacrifice of personal freedom and responsibility on the alter of whatever "progressive" topic de jour is trending on social media. I believe that constitution and its amendments are there to protect citizens from their governments. Laws like HF 3433 and HF 3402 make citizens less safe. They will financially harm citizens and businesses. They will force citizens to choose between state and nation. These are the kinds of laws from which the amendments are designed protect us.

Do not allow these bills to pass. They will never stand in court as they are blatantly unconstitutional. To spend any taxpayer money on these bills or the inevitable court cases to follow is as much a waste as any of the fraud currently under investigation. The gross disregard of the taxpayers in this state has reached national infamy. The proposed traitorous regulations are simply another attempted tyranny over the people of this state.

Kill bills HF 3433 and HF 3402.

I strongly oppose HF 3433 and HF 3402. First and foremost, they infringe on our 2nd amendment rights. Second, if passed these gun control laws will in “objective reality” do nothing to curb gun violence or protect anyone as you claim. All these bills do is strip away the rights and protections of the 2nd amendment for law abiding Minnesotans. Criminals do not follow laws, abide gun free zones, or care whatsoever about 2A restrictions. This bill targets and makes law abiding gun owners overnight felons for the “crime” of owning common everyday firearms and magazines sold and used for decades. These two bills are partisan ideological preference disguised as “safety”.

Lets go back in time to the end of World War 2. America's population was 140 million. 15 million American men came home from World War 2 with deep scars and significant skills. Our veterans bore the invisible wounds of war and there were weapons everywhere. At this time there was virtually no regulation on firearms. A child in the 1950's could walk into a gun dealer and buy a firearm if their father sent them with the money to do so. Firearms were available for direct consumer purchase through the Sears catalog. Mass shootings were unheard of. It was not until 1968 serial numbers were even required on weapons sold. Through the late 1970's it was common for High school students to have a rifle and or handgun in their vehicles on school grounds. Additionally, marksmanship was commonly taught in high schools in America through to the late 1960's. School shootings were unheard of. What happened to this America? The problem is not firearms, the problem is rampant mental illness combined with an orders of magnitude increase in broken and or fatherless homes, societal moral decay, and full spectrum hedonism being normalized and promoted. If you want to truly make a meaningful impact on curbing violent crimes in Minnesota focus your legislative efforts on the root of the problem (aforementioned) instead of going after law abiding gun owners.

In my 20 years in Minnesota watching hearings on 2A issues in Saint Paul, I have observed that when most anti gun legislators are presented with detailed comprehensive 2A statistics, hard data / nuanced critical analysis from law enforcement, and irrefutable facts grounded in truth / objective reality your responses are as follows (no matter how masterfully presented and well argued). Indifference, gaslighting, obfuscation, citing narrow cherry picked statics that are deliberately misleading, emotionally charged appeals / rhetoric that does not stand up to basic scrutiny, or filibusterer to run out the clock of the persons time. The time you legislators spend listening / hearing from those of us opposed to 2A overreach from all outward appearances comes across as “necessary time wasting” to move the bills forward. Lets be real here, a majority of you anti gun legislators have no interest in open honest dialog on the 2nd amendment or open minded to having your views changed on this issue. The small handful of DFL lawmakers that “might” be swayed to vote against or abstain on these bills are so afraid of the consequences of going against party leaders and what that would mean for their political career, that they remain silent and choose instead to tow the party line. Is it any wonder why “We The People's” confidence, trust, and approval of government is at historic all time lows?

Most of your gun control proposals if passed into state law will not survive constitutional court challenges. You lawmakers most certainly know this, but that is besides the point. The quiet part spoken aloud, is there is no meaningful consequence or penalty for you or your political party in passing UN-constitutional gun laws. In fact, doing so yields many partisan benefits. The DFL scores political brownie points on wedge issues like this with your base, you take “victory laps” in the media, and will appeal every lower courts ruling (that rules in favor of overturning your unconstitutional 2A laws) until it goes all the way to the Supreme Court. In most instances, the unconstitutional law is allowed to stand until ultimately struck down by the Supreme Court. Meanwhile, “We The People” who want our rights legally restored must raise multiple millions of dollars for legal fee's (you spend taxpayer dollars to cover your legal expenses) and spend YEARS battling your attorneys in court to have our Constitutional rights (that were never yours to take away) restored.

I'm so tired of "political theater" being passed off as honest, objective, due process (both sides of the isle are guilty of this). I'm tired of the endless legal court battles born out of unconstitutional state gun laws that pass narrowly along party lines that I and other gun owners must fund. Most of all, I'm tired of the hyper partisan tribalism and being encouraged in our media, entertainment, and schools to distrust and hate each other. We are Americans first and foremost, and it's long overdue we remember and start acting like it.

I thank you for your time, consideration, and implore you all to vote no on HF 3433 and HF 3402.

Respectfully,

Greg Peterson
131 2nd Street
Claremont, MN 55924-4669
petersongw@yahoo.com

I wish to enter objection to passage by committee or legislative action of the following:

HF3433

- Banning errantly named, commonly owned and responsibly used rifles does not deter crime, but will create felons by present ownership of these rifles.
- Penalties for ownership or transfer are excessive and more severe than active crimes with actual victims.
- Including language to ban nearly all semi auto rifles infringes on hunters rights to own or transfer commonly used high power rifles for deer and multiple brands of .22 rifles.
- Functionality of rifles is not basis for inclusion in bans.
- Court decisions based on Constitutionality support ownership and use of commonly owned firearms.

HF3402

- Banning magazines based on fear and assumed use is not logical and will not reduce actions of criminals or save lives.
- Penalties are unreasonable compared to actual active crime.
- Requiring disposal or modification circumvents due process and adds unnecessary financial cost for legal ownership.

In all aspects of the above listed bills, crime prevention or crime severity will not be addressed. Only law abiding responsible firearms owners will comply while criminals and/or unstable individuals will ignore the statutes. Please rationally consider the above legislation and agree the bills are irrational.

Sincerely,
Harlow Zeppelin

Sent from my Galaxy

23 Feb, 2026

Ms. McDaniel,

I am writing regarding HF 3433 & HF 3402.

Both of these proposed bills will negatively impact families in Minnesota by making them criminals and imposing severe financial losses, while subjecting them to life threatening situations where actual criminals will have an upper hand in a self-defense situation.

These bills will also negatively impact almost all shooting ranges, sporting goods stores, and sporting events held in Minnesota.

Therefore, we oppose these bills.

Regards,
The Hass Family of Burnsville, MN

Dear Safety committee,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to any effort to ban or restrict semi-automatic rifles, standard-capacity magazines, or firearms produced by private manufacturers.

The Second Amendment is not a suggestion or a conditional privilege — it is a constitutional right. I do not believe the government should have the authority to restrict my lawful access to firearms that are commonly owned and used by responsible citizens across this country. Law-abiding Americans should not face new prohibitions because of the actions of criminals who already disregard the law.

We the people are already tired of government overreach. Many of us feel that each new proposal chips away at individual liberty under the justification of public safety. There must be clear limits to government authority, especially when it comes to enumerated constitutional rights.

If such bans were passed, they would instantly turn many otherwise law-abiding citizens into criminals overnight for simply retaining legally purchased property. Forcing citizens to surrender firearms they acquired lawfully under previous laws is not only unreasonable — it undermines trust in government and punishes responsible individuals who have done nothing wrong. This approach is absolutely absurd and fundamentally wrong.

Attempts to ban certain categories of firearms or magazines often focus on the tool rather than the root cause of the problem. The issue of gun violence is not the firearm itself, but a deeper mental health crisis combined with inadequate gun education and personal responsibility. Addressing mental health access, early intervention, and responsible education would be far more productive than restricting the rights of millions of law-abiding citizens.

I am also deeply concerned about proposals that would expand government intrusion into private homes under the justification of “ensuring gun safety.” The idea that the government could enter a law-abiding citizen’s home to inspect or enforce firearm storage policies crosses a serious line. Our constitutional protections — including both the Second and Fourth Amendments — exist precisely to prevent that kind of overreach.

I am responsible for my own safety and for the safety of my family. I do not need the government to dictate how I exercise a fundamental right under the guise of protecting me from myself. Public safety is important, but it must be pursued within the clear limits of the Constitution and with respect for individual liberty.

I urge you to oppose legislation that restricts the rights of law-abiding citizens and instead focus efforts on enforcing existing laws and addressing the underlying causes of violence.

Thank you for your time and for your service.

Henry McAuley

Ham Lake, MN

Dear Ellen McDaniel,

I am writing to show my support for the opposition of Bills HF3433 and HF3402. As a Minnesotan and American citizen, these bills directly oppose the rights grandfathered to me and many others under the Bill of Rights. These rights do not need to be backed or defended as they are unalienable and bestowed upon us by our maker.

These bills wouldn't help to diminish the number of violent offenders in the state, rather it would fill our prisons with lawful individuals that aren't dangers to society. This scares me as in recent history, it appears that our court systems prioritize the release of potentially violent individuals. These bills do nothing to address violent offenders or non-law-abiding citizens. While we push forward bills that spare the guilty, we injure the innocent.

While these bans directly oppose the second amendment, the fourth amendment is infringed upon with warrantless searches. These are disgusting attacks on our Constitution and to open it up to this kind of attack is directly infringing on all our rights as Americans. The road to hell is paved with gold bricks, and the best of intentions can be used as a weapon in the future. These oversteps are not to be ignored and are exactly the oversteps spoken about by the Founding Fathers.

Address criminals, not everyday citizens.

Best Regards and I hope you vote against these,

Hunter Hirshfield

Dear Committee Members,

My name is Jackie Tyszka, a resident of Plymouth, Minnesota. As a law-abiding gun owner and enthusiast who shares my husband's passion for the sport, I strongly oppose HF 3433 and HF 3402. These bills would profoundly infringe on our Second Amendment rights and disrupt our lawful activities as responsible firearm owners.

Like my husband Art, I own and use semi-automatic rifles and standard-capacity magazines for recreational shooting, training, and personal protection, which as a woman is especially critical to my personal safety. HF 3433's near-total ban on semi-automatic rifles—with only limited grandfathering that prevents any future transfers—would render many of my legally owned firearms unusable beyond my lifetime and effectively strip me of property rights I have exercised responsibly. HF 3402's complete prohibition on magazines over 10 rounds, with no grandfathering, would force me to destroy, surrender, or permanently alter, magazines acquired lawfully and at significant cost that are essential to safe and effective participation in shooting sports.

These proposals target law-abiding citizens like us, who follow every regulation and pose no threat to public safety. Criminals and those intent on harm will disregard these laws entirely, acquiring prohibited items through black markets or other illegal channels. Such restrictions have never demonstrably reduced crime in jurisdictions where they've been tried; instead, they only burden compliant owners and erode constitutional freedoms without making Minnesota safer.

I respectfully urge the committee to reject HF 3433 and HF 3402 and protect the rights of responsible gun owners across our state.

Sincerely,

Jackie Tyszka

Dear House Public Safety Committee,

My name is Jacob Sides, and I am a 23-year-old construction worker residing in Coon Rapids. I strongly oppose HF3433 and HF3402, as these two bills are unconstitutional and would ban common-use items in Minnesota. One in four firearms sold in Minnesota would be covered under this bill and would be banned. These guns are common-use firearms; my mom, dad, and brother all own them. Banning these guns would turn them into criminals overnight, forcing them to dispose of the guns they have spent their hard-earned money on.

I personally enjoy sport shooting, but more importantly, I rely on these guns to effectively defend myself from criminals and tyrannical governments. These guns provide Americans with a sense of security, especially in these days of blatant fascism. The magazine ban and AWB are unconstitutional and should not be passed

Dear DFL,

In Regard to HF 3433 & HF 3402, I think you should be totally ashamed of these gross violations of our rights in the Second Amendment. You are willfully and maliciously attempting to enact these laws under a fall guise of safety, when in reality, it is to exert oppressive control over all Minnesotans. The measures do nothing to make anyone safer but the criminals and yourselves, and the other states that have enacted these polices have shown that to be undoubtedly true.

If you truly wanted to make our communities safer and prioritize the wellbeing of your constituents. You would be aiming to pass legislature that tackles the growing mental health crisis and be tougher on crime. Yet you refuse to do so, instead choosing to disarm all Law-Abiding Citizens for your own selfish gain and make tens of thousands if not hundreds of Minnesotans criminals over night. You should be ashamed.

We all have the right to own and posses firearms for our safety, and your political games to disarm us will not work.

Minnesota Gun Owners Caucus Written Testimony for these bills:

HF 3433 – A sweeping ban on nearly all semi-automatic rifles, with a permanent transfer prohibition.

Rep. Emma Greenman (DFL, HF 63B)

HF 3402 – A total ban on standard-capacity magazines over 10 rounds — no grandfathering. Destroy them. Surrender them. Modify them. Or get them out of Minnesota.

Rep. Brad Tabke (DFL, HD 54A)

I CALL UPON ALL MEMBERS OF THE MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE/ HOUSE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE TO TOTALLY OPPOSE THE BAN ON SEMI-AUTOMATIC FIREARMS AND MAGAZINES.

I TOTALLY OPPOSE THESE BANS because their are unconstitutional for one and semi-automatic pistols and rifles are commonly owned firearms under Bruen and Heller and magazines with more than 10 rounds are standard equipment on semi auto rifles and pistols most semi auto rifles like the AR10/ AR15 are 20,30 round magazines standard and semi auto pistols come standard with 15,17 or even 20 or more standard. As a peaceful law abiding gun owner and other gun owners these bans would hurt law abiding people and wont affect the non law abiding people which the ban wouldn't affect them and target the real cause of gun violence and dangerous people and criminals STOP Affecting peaceful gun owners with these unnecessary bills and also the more gun control laws you legislators put into law the more the government gets controlling. Bolt action rifles and revolvers and other firearms won't be as good against a tyrannical/ controlling government unlike the semi auto pistols and rifles with standard equipment magazines with over 10 rounds standard are good against a tyrannical government and are protected by the second amendment. The sole purpose of the Second Amendment is to ensure the security of a free state by allowing a well-regulated militia and to protect the individual right of citizens to keep and bear arms for self-defense. Historically, it was intended to prevent federal tyranny and foreign invasion, allowing citizens to defend themselves and their liberties and to have freedom to protect citizens themselves from a tyrannical government. Assault weapons/ weapons of war ARE FULLY AUTOMATIC owned by the United States Military NOT citizens. You legislators that try to ban assault weapons/ weapons of war or semi auto rifles/ pistols with magazines bigger than 10 or even shotguns with more than 10 rounds and call the AR 15 a assault weapon/ weapon of war but IT ISN'T its a modern sporting rifle and is semi automatic meaning one bullet per trigger pull and AR doesn't mean Assault rifle it means aramlite rifle. It's not the weapons that kill people, it's the bad people/non peaceful/ lawless gun owners that kill people NOT the peaceful law abiding gun owners. I OPPOSE these unconstitutional bans of Semi auto rifles/ pistols, so called assault weapons and so called high capacity magazines over 10 rounds but they are just standard magazines.

Let's call this what it is:

A direct attempt to criminalize the most commonly owned firearms in America

AS A PEACEFUL LAW ABIDING GUN OWNER AND SUPPORTER OF THE SECOND AMENDMENT, I TOTALLY OPPOSE THESE BANS.

I am writing to respectfully urge you to reconsider and oppose the proposed legislation seeking to further restrict semi-automatic rifles and magazine capacities.

Firearms are deeply important to me, my family, and millions of law-abiding Americans. They are part of our heritage, our traditions, and our rights as citizens. In our household, firearms are used strictly for lawful purposes such as hunting, target practice, and sport shooting. They are also a means by which we exercise our constitutional right to keep and bear arms.

We take gun ownership extremely seriously. Responsible firearm ownership requires training, discipline, and respect — values that my family and countless others uphold without exception. We invest time in proper education, safe storage

practices, and ongoing training to ensure that our firearms are handled safely and responsibly at all times. For us, gun ownership is not casual; it is a solemn responsibility.

The firearms being targeted by these proposed bans are commonly owned and widely used for lawful purposes. They are not “weapons of war” in the context of how they are used by responsible civilians. They are tools for sport, recreation, hunting, and personal protection – owned by Americans who follow the law and contribute positively to their communities.

Legislation that imposes further bans or restrictions does not address the root causes of criminal violence. Instead, it risks turning law-abiding citizens into criminals for simply possessing property

they have legally acquired and responsibly maintained. Such measures place additional burdens on families like mine while doing little to deter those who already disregard the law.

I respectfully ask that you stand with responsible gun owners and oppose these proposed bans. Please consider solutions that focus on enforcing existing laws and addressing criminal behavior, rather than restricting the rights of those who follow the law.

Thank you for your time, your service, and your consideration of my concerns.

Sincerely,

Jarrett Smith

I am writing to state my opposition to bills HF 3433 and HF 3402. As a veteran and legal firearms owner, these bills will do nothing for the safety of our communities and are only a placebo to make it look like something is being done to make our state safer. This will only disenfranchise legal firearm owners and make law abiding citizens of the state felons overnight if they don't relinquish legally owned and common firearms and firearm components. After what the community has been through the last several months with the federal government overstepping its legal authority and how its more apparent now that no elected official or judiciary can really do anything to prevent federal actions like we have recently seen shows it is not the time for such bills that do nothing but disenfranchise residents of the state.

Thanks,
Jason Klemesrud

I am writing today to express my opposition to **HF 3433** and **HF 3402**. While we all share the goal of increasing public safety, these bills focus on restricting the rights of law-abiding citizens rather than addressing the root causes of violent crime. I believe these restrictions would make Minnesotans **LESS** safe. I urge you not to vote to remove my ability to protect myself and my family.

Concerns Regarding HF 3433 (Semiautomatic Weapon Ban)

- **Infringement on Constitutional Rights:** In *NYSRPA v. Bruen*, the Supreme Court clarified that the Second Amendment protects firearms in "common use" for lawful purposes. The firearms targeted by this bill are standard equipment for millions of Americans for self-defense, competition, and hunting.
- **Vague and Arbitrary Definitions:** The criteria for "military-style assault weapons" often rely on cosmetic features rather than functionality. This creates a confusing legal landscape for responsible owners who may unintentionally find themselves in possession of a banned item.
- **Intrusive Compliance Measures:** Provisions in the bill requiring registration and potentially allowing warrantless inspections for "safe storage" represent a significant overreach of government authority and a violation of Fourth Amendment protections against unreasonable searches.

Concerns Regarding HF 3402 (Large-Capacity Magazine Ban)

- **Self-Defense Limitations:** In a self-defense situation, an individual should not be arbitrarily limited by the state in their ability to protect their life and family. Most modern handguns and rifles come standard with magazines exceeding a 10-round capacity.
- **Lack of Grandfathering:** As currently written, this bill offers no real protection for those who already legally own these items. Forcing citizens to destroy, surrender, or move their legal property out of state by July 1, 2026, is an unfunded mandate that turns law-abiding neighbors into potential felons overnight.
- **Ineffectiveness Against Criminals:** Criminals, by definition, do not follow the law. Restricting magazine capacity only affects those who follow the rules, leaving them at a disadvantage against those who ignore them.

I urge the committee to vote **NO** on HF 3433 and HF 3402.

Respectfully,

Jason Stinehart

19685 Hibbing Way

Lakeville, MN 55044



Fwd: Gun control bills

From Fitzgerald <jaycsmv@gmail.com>

Date Sat 2/21/2026 11:40 AM

To Jason Thompson <Jason@tjofficefurniture.com>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Fitzgerald** <jaycsmv@gmail.com>

Date: Sat, Feb 21, 2026 at 11:33 AM

Subject: Gun control bills

To: <ellen.mcdaniel@house.mn.gov>

Hello,

I am writing to let you know as a south Minneapolis resident and AR-15 owner (among other things) that I am very much not in favor of the gun control bills the DFL is trying to pass. I am a person who works full time and pays taxes in this state. The government attempting to make me a felon overnight while they simultaneously allow my tax dollars to be stolen with impunity is absolutely outrageous and anyone pushing this should be ashamed. I cannot even get the police to show up in my neighborhood (Lowry hill east) when someone threatens to kill my dog and spits at me yet you will carve out time to go after productive citizens.

I just find it incredible that with 10 billion dollars missing and no attempt to protect the tax payers of this city that the DFL is going down this road. The priorities are just so out of line. Ordinarily I'm fine with the representatives of this city chasing after fairy dust laws that won't accomplish anything but you are on the precipice of threatening me with jail for something generations of Americans have been able to do.

Thank you,
Jason Thompson

February 22, 2026

Ellen McDaniel
Committee Administrator – DFL Caucus

Ms. McDaniel:

I am a 68-year-old Minnesotan who was raised and taught to be a respectful, law abiding, proud American. I live by those standards. I am completely and wholeheartedly opposed to the MN DFL introduction of bills H3433 and HF3402.

I believe this is another attempt to instill limitations on our U.S. Constitutional, 2nd Amendment right of the people to keep and bear arms. Our politicians should never have the right to “infringe” against our 2nd Amendment right of the U.S. Constitution.

I feel that it’s unacceptable for our politicians to diminish the 2nd Amendment rights of honest, law-abiding Minnesota citizens while not doing enough to enforce existing laws and penalties against the perpetrators who commit crimes with firearms.

Being soft on crime is not working!

Jay E Mahs
Blackduck, MN

To whom it may concern,

I am 51 years old and a Native born Minnesotan. I have also been a responsible and lifelong hunter and gun owner in this state. While I personally use guns primarily for hunting, I also occasionally enjoy recreational target shooting and gun collecting. I and many of my friends and relatives who are fellow Minnesota residents have used guns safely without incident or injury our entire lives. I think I speak for all of Minnesotans when I say I find it heartbreaking every time there is a mass shooting and lives are unnecessarily lost due to the unbelievable actions of evil criminals using guns as a way to enact their violence on innocent citizens. While legislators and politicians play a role in preventing this type of thing from happening, the bills currently being considered are misguided and most importantly will be ineffective in achieving the desired outcome. HF 3433 and HR 3402 seek to ban semi automatic rifles and standard issue magazines that exceed more than 10 rounds. Putting restrictions like this on law abiding citizens may make legislators feel like they are doing something for their constituents, but actually all they are doing is punishing people who have done nothing wrong, and making those same people less safe due to the fact that the guns they rely on for self defense will now be illegal and/or less effective than before. Even if these bills pass and are put into effect, the real fact is there are so many semi automatic rifles and standard capacity magazines already widely in use and in circulation that it would take many years to actually have a meaningful reduction in the numbers of those weapons available to criminals who would seek them out to use for a crime. The immediate impact these bills will absolutely have would be on innocent civilians like myself who have done nothing wrong. We would be required to sell the guns that have been passed down through generations of our families and used for decades without any danger to anyone. This is simply unacceptable and should not be considered by this legislature. The second amendment to the United States Constitution clearly states "The right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed" that is a clear directive to anyone who reads it, but especially to you as legislators that there is to never be a law passed that infringes upon the citizens right to keep and bear arms. Period, full stop. HF 3433 and HR 3402 are clearly bills that would without a doubt infringe upon those exact rights and thus would be in clear disregard and disagreement with the second amendment of the United States Constitution. I strongly urge you to oppose in any way possible and vote against HF 3433 and HR 3402 at every level and in any version being considered.

If you are serious and genuinely concerned about stopping gun violence against our Minnesota schools, it is way past time to do far more to harden those targets and make our schools safer through secure entrances and armed security and law enforcement officers standing watch at the entrances to every school. Why do we almost never hear about a mass shooting at a courthouse for example? Courthouses have armed law enforcement

there and the criminals know that would be much more difficult to get past, so they don't even try. That is how we should be approaching security at our schools. Why do you care more about a courthouse than you do about protecting our children? That's the question I want answered right now, not tomorrow, not next session, I want that question answered today! Please vote no on HF 3433 and HR 3402 and introduce a new bill on school security as soon as possible. Thank you for your time and work, and I will be watching these bills closely as they are considered this session.

Jeremy Fischer

1512 36th Ave. S

Moorhead, MN

Hello,

This email is sent in support of HF Bill 3433 (to ban weapons of war) and HF Bill 3402 (to ban high-capacity magazines).

1. As a constituent of Speaker Melissa Hortman, gun violence directly impacted my family and me this last summer and for always. For the first time in my 45 years of life, I had to see a therapist for the deep anguish I was experiencing after the loss of the Hortmans. I was diagnosed with PTSD and was in therapy for five months. I am still working on recovering my spirit. Bullets rip through entire communities, impacting people in ways not visibly seen or well understood. Grief lies right below the surface, and words or images that seemed normal before suddenly become triggers. If I wake around 3:00-4:00 in the morning, I think of and cry for the Hortmans since that's when they were attacked. I have not been back to the Caribous in my neighborhood where I had met with Melissa in the past. My town's name, roads around here, the tears that well up whenever conversation brings up the terror of June 14--all of this speaks to the heartache endured by the victims-of-the-victims and the reverberations of pain that spread across relationships, organizations, and communities. No study can quantify the devastation of knowing that a human you knew, loved, or admired--a friend, a family member--was stolen by such horrific means. Top that anguish with the physical torture of high-capacity magazine bullets and weapons of war, and it should be ghastly obvious that these weapons and rounds are designed to inflict demonic pain--not only physically but also psychically. When high-capacity magazines used against people can hold 100 rounds but hunting magazines are limited to 2-5 rounds because the *animal* should have a fair fight and a chance to escape, there is something ungodly going on in our so-called society.

2. As a teacher for 21 years, I find it disturbing that students are so conditioned to do lockdown drills. Every year, I am retraumatized by the training videos my district requires me to watch, with reenactments of kids running with hands up and heart-pounding music dramatically emphasizing the suspense as a man with a long gun walks down the halls, as if this were a movie and not the horror of a society gone numb to sanity. When I was in a sixth grade classroom the other day reading a story that ended with "I love you," I asked students if it was a good thing to hear "I love you" and how they could show that love and care to classmates. I found it striking that they seemed more uncertain and awkward about talking about how to show love and care than around lockdown drills. What does that say about us as a society too?

Other points from a Protect MN panel held on Feb. 22, 2026 also illustrate the need for regulations and the passage of bills 3433 and 3402:

- States where assault weapons were banned have seen a reduction in victims of school shootings by 54%. Bans do work.
- Brittany Haeg is an Annunciation Catholic Church mother. Her son David is the youngest survivor of a mass shooting in America (not because his injuries weren't grievous but because of the tremendous response team and medical care delivered). David was shot twice in the head with "graze shots," and as a result, has a traumatic brain injury. Their family has endured countless labs, PT, sleep-anxiety studies, and so many other appointments because of the physical and emotional trauma. Over the

last six months, the family has already been billed over \$500,000 for the cost of the horrendous injuries David suffered. All Annunciation victims have to also be treated for elevated lead poisoning because the bullets in that mass shooting contained lead. (In fact, the ammunition used is not even allowed on state hunting grounds because it is deemed too hazardous for wildlife!).

- Assault weapons are weapons for the battlefield. They are designed to mow down as many people as possible without the shooter having to actually take sight of "the target." The bullets are designed to tumble through the body, ripping massive wounds throughout the body. A veteran shared his story of an assault weapon bullet that entered a fellow's left wrist, tore up his arm, ripped through his torso, only to finally end at his right thigh! Why should such cruelty and mutilation be tolerated as a society? The impact to little bodies is, of course, (dis)proportionately higher. Their injuries are catastrophic. That is why every child shot in the Sandy Hook mass shooting died. There were no survivors. That is why little 6-year-old David Haeg is the youngest survivor because those other 6-year-olds in Sandy Hook had no chance. That is why parents of other mass shootings have had to provide DNA swabs so the remnants of their child could be identified. This hell is not a "Second Amendment" right; it is an ungodly wrong-doing that must end.
- The cost of gun-related injuries to our society is incalculable, but it is estimated to cost \$500,000,000,000 (half a trillion dollars) every year! How is that being "fiscally responsible" let alone morally responsible?
- Assault weapons like the AR15 and AK47 are even more powerful than the M4, the actual military-grade assault weapon used today. Why should these assault weapons be so available to citizens to roam the streets, making battlefields of any corner in America?
- Dr. Marc Gorelick shared that since 2020, gun injury is the #1 cause of death for kids. On average, every day in America, 12 kids die from injury by guns.

Please take a few minutes to reflect on what these numbers mean to you, and more importantly, how other people's stories and experiences are landing in your heart. If you're lucky enough to still not have known someone directly impacted by gun violence, that blessing is becoming more and more rare. After losing my representative Melissa Hortman last year, I now know more about the trauma and the gutting pain and inhumanity of losing someone you know to gun violence. We as a people deserve better; everyone deserves the right to live in America. When will we start loving our people more than guns?

Please pass any legislation that puts people over party, gun company or NRA profits, or talking points meant to distract from the real point--we are done being victims to the cruelty, chaos, and casualties caused by guns. **Your voice and vote make a difference. Thanks for using them to protect us all.**

Respectfully,
Jodi Anderson-Wolhaupter
Brooklyn Park resident and Anoka-Hennepin teacher

Please OPPOSE HR 3433 and 3402.

I am a law abiding citizen, a physician, and father of two. Recreational shooting, hunting, and gun ownership has deep roots in my family going back generations. I have built a sizable collection of firearms to support my interests, as has my father. Many guns that we own are semi-automatic rifles, not all of which are "AR" type rifles. Some are used exclusively for hunting. I intend to pass my collection on to my children just as my elderly father is to me as part of our family legacy and heritage.

Passing the above bills would not only be an egregious violation of my rights, but would render my assets worthless, since I could no longer pass them on to my adult children.

Furthermore, many of the firearms I've purchased over the years came with standard capacity magazines which can hold more than 10 rounds. This includes not just semi-automatic rifles, but also handguns and even bolt action rifles. By outlawing the possession and use of such magazines, I would be forced to order new magazines for all of those firearms, which is a significant expense to incur. Magazines that meet the requirements may not be available, which would render the firearms useless.

Please help me preserve my family heritage and legacy and protect my constitutional rights by opposing the above bills and preventing their passage.

Best,
Dr. John Charles Zeyer

February 20th, 2026

To Whom It May Concern

I am a resident of Minnesota. I know that more gun laws will not save lives. We have enough laws already. Criminals do not consult the state statutes before carjacking an elderly woman or shoplifting from a family-owned business. And a person can point to crime-ridden cities with all kinds of gun laws that do not impact crime. Look how many people every weekend that are shot and killed in Chicago. That does not make the front page or create a moral outrage, does it?

Please ponder this. If some politicians can be guarded by personnel armed with firearms and sometimes machine guns, why should I be limited in how I can defend myself. If something happens the police will be great at following up but not preventing some situations. I am my own first responder.

I realize that we had some gun tragedies in our own backyard. The incident at Annunciation Church and School is on people's minds. The loss of any life is heartbreaking. I know no words to express for those who experience loss of any family member young or old. What we need are metal detectors in our schools.

No gun laws will stop evil from happening. Evil people will find a way. Look at the United Kingdom with knife and sword attacks. An evil person could go shopping at a local business and buy materials to create IED's that would do all kinds of awful damage.

Look what happened during Prohibition? Alcohol flowed right through the border to the north.

Look at the DWI repeat offenders we have. Boy those people sure are not afraid of breaking the law. A repeat offender up in St. Cloud took the life of a mother and unborn child. Driving is a privilege. Not a Constitutional Right.

Now I am not in line with having Red Flag Laws, but let's acknowledge facts. Most of the school shooters are troubled people. Their families facilitated some of the incidents like that kid in Michigan where his parents are being held responsible for his access to a firearm.

I had no school shootings in my time growing up. Heck, people had guns in the gun racks of their trucks in the school parking lot. We live in a different world that is for sure.

Banning magazines holding more than 10 rounds or banning models of firearms is all fluff and buff. Look at Glock Switches.... they are 3-D printed. Yet law enforcement continues to encounter them.

What we need is prosecutors and judges to do their jobs. Press charges and if the person is convicted punish them...put them in jail.

Respectfully Submitted

John Erickson

16315 Wagner Way #104

Eden Prairie, MN 55344

Jme625@gmail.com

John Hirsch
23871 186th St NW
Big Lake, MN 55309
2/19/26

To the Minnesota House Public Safety Committee,

I am writing as your constituent to strongly oppose both a semi-automatic rifle ban (HF 3433) as well as a magazine capacity limit (HF 3402) here in the state of MN.

In this very state there exists a population of law-abiding gun owners and shooting hobbyists. In fact, ~45% of all MN households are included in this group.¹ Passing this legislation would negatively affect their hunting, sport shooting, competition, or self-defense abilities. I for one am a competition shooter and both pieces of legislation would severely hinder my ability to compete. Standard capacity magazines are essential in getting through challenging shooting stages and limiting new rifle purchases would inhibit new competitors from joining and growing the sport. These bills would effectively kill most sport shooting in Minnesota.

I am sure you will recall in 2012, a terrible mass shooting took place in Newtown, CT at Sandy Hook Elementary. A gunman murdered his mother, went to school and murdered 26 students and staff before turning his weapon on himself. A response to this was the Connecticut Public Act 13-3 which was passed shortly after in April 2013. This legislation was robust including: magazine capacity limit of 10, "assault weapon" ban, universal background checks, created eligibility certificates for ammunition purchases, established a unique registry of criminals convicted of arms-related crimes.² Despite this legislation, the gun death rate in Connecticut increased by 24% between 2014 to 2023.³ Clearly, these regulations that were passed in good faith to stem gun violence only robbed Connecticut residents of their rights. There is no reason to believe passing similar legislation here in Minnesota would yield different results.

Passing HF 3433 and HF 3402 would infringe on the constitutional rights of Minnesotans who frequently exercise this right, would negatively impact competition shooters all without likelihood of actually stemming gun violence. I and my fellow Minnesotans strongly urge you not to pass these bills.

Cited works

1. 44.7% of Minnesota households own a gun. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2015). National Centers for Injury Prevention and Control, Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System (WISQARS). Okoro, C. A., Nelson, D. E., Mercy, J. A., Balluz, L. S., Crosby, A. E., & Mokdad, A. H. (2002). Prevalence of household firearms and firearm-storage practices in the 50 states and the District of Columbia: Findings from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2002. *Pediatrics*, 116(3), e370–e376.
2. Connecticut, General Assembly. Public Act 13-3, An Act Concerning Gun Violence Prevention and Children's Safety. 2013 Regular Session, 2013, www.cga.ct.gov. Accessed [2/20/2026].
3. Kim, R., Wagner, E. D., Nestadt, P. S., Somayaji, N., Horwitz, J., & Crifasi, C. K. (2025). Gun Violence in the United States 2023: Examining the Gun Suicide Epidemic. Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Violence Solutions, Johns Hopkins Center for Suicide Prevention. Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Good afternoon,

My name is John Reinan and I am a resident of the state of Minnesota. I am a hunter, second amendment advocate and proponent of self-defense. I also am a Father and Grandfather. Neither of the bills to be heard, HF3433 and HF3402, will keep my children and grandchildren safer. Even if they did, my children and grandchildren are not more important than 6 Million Minnesotans inalienable rights. These are rights endowed to them by their creator, not granted by the government.

These bills are dubious in their effect to keep people safe and indubitable in their intent. The concept of “if we can save even one life” is not applicable to inalienable rights and that concept is not applied anywhere else in our lives. Why not ban the automobile? That was responsible for four times the deaths of firearm related homicides. Why not ban “super sized” French fries or Triple cheeseburgers? Heart disease killed almost 9000 Minnesotans in 2024. The reason we don’t is because those measures are foolish and ineffective.

I beg of you, do not impede my freedom to legally keep and bear arms. I want my children and grandchildren to enjoy the same freedoms I have enjoyed. Do not give us perceived safety of gun legislation. Give us real safety by enforcing and prosecuting the laws already on the books.

Thank you,

John Reinan

15901 Hyland Pointe Ct.

Apple Valley, MN

Dear Committee members,

I am writing you today in reference to bills HF3433 and HF3402. These bills that would ban common semi automatic rifles, shotguns, and pistols, as well as the standard capacity magazines that these firearms accept, criminalizing hundreds of thousands of law abiding Minnesota residents. Not only would this legislation be unconstitutional, but it will do nothing to reduce gun violence in Minnesota. Criminals will not pay this law any attention, they will still commit crimes with these weapons you are looking to ban. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

-John Tobin

2/23/26

Greetings,

Hello, my name is Josh. I'm writing this today in an attempt to have my voice be heard among the people who essentially - for lack of a better way to put it - hold my 2nd Amendment freedoms as a born and raised native Minnesotan in their hands. My goal is to not approach this with hostility or bitterness in any way but to express a deep concern I have regarding the proposal of gun restriction bills set to be discussed during this upcoming House floor session. HF3433 and HF3402 which you are aware are a complete ban on "assault weapons" of any kind as well as a ban on magazines holding more than 10 rounds would violate mine and many other's freedoms. I'm confused why today I as a citizen, born and raised living in Minnesota can own these items - these tools of which I've always been responsible and diligently safe with however after potential legislation passing would become a felon for possessing and why my elected officials would allow this. I am not a felon, I am not a criminal. I have never committed a crime of any kind in my life perhaps outside a parking violation, a speeding ticket because I was running late for work or an appointment. My aim is always to be on the right side of and respect the laws we have in place. These laws serve a purpose for myself and the greater good with regard to public safety, civil rights, and personal freedoms. My point is at the present I can enjoy the freedom to take my firearms I legally purchased and am permitted to own to my local gun range and exercise a right that many states recognize and permit in our great nation and I would like this right to remain in place under MN law. There are many states that recognize the importance and heritage of such freedoms

afforded to it's citizens - the right to bear arms. I say this because I would like my elected officials in this great state to appreciate that Minnesota happens to be one of those states. We are a state of so many amazing people many of which lawfully own these very popular and common weapons that these bills would essentially turn into felons. Why do our elected officials see the need to impose restrictions on such freedoms afforded by the Constitution? An AR-15 is one example of the best possible weapon for defense of self and family in one's home that could potentially be criminally broken into for whatever nefarious reason. The Constitution allows us to own these weapons and Minnesota is immersed in the culture of firearm ownership and use in our great state for a myriad of purposes - some for hunting, some for sport, some for personal safety. Why instead of pushing restrictions don't the leaders in my state embrace the heritage component of firearm usage and ownership and expand education and more broadly offer safety training of firearms? Why don't the leaders in my state encourage it's citizens to exercise their rights to firearm ownership and use more earnestly and eagerly? Im not saying everyone has to be a "gun nut" or even an advocate but look at states like Texas or Ohio. These states set the perfect example of Constitutional adherence of which I can only dream of for my home state here in Minnesota. I for one think our state has more in common with the many midwest states with less imposing gun restrictions than California or New York in terms of our hardworking, rational populace, our culture, and customs of the citizens that safely own and use firearms residing here. Please don't dissolve or take away the right so many of us living here are grateful to have.

My next point is to express the restriction of magazine capacity

to the arbitrary number of 10 rounds and how the aim of its imposition and efficacy misses the mark. Most semi-automatic weapons including handguns come stock from the factory with 15, 17, even 19 or more round magazines. Not only is this industry wide with many gun manufacturers understanding that having as many rounds as possible makes for a better shooting experience but prove to increase the odds of survivability in self-defense cases as well. (Picture needing every round available because a frightened hand is less steady taking aim than one not under duress or under attack during a home invasion for a resident living alone in rural Minnesota.) A 30 round magazine is stock for many semi-automatic rifles. In the hands of lawful gun owners this IS considered standard capacity of which is a broader benefit to the overall function of these weapons decreasing the need for shorter interval reloading. Used in sport or home defense for so many, placing a restriction on capacity in such a way is more a hinderance for law abiding citizens than it is a solution in stopping a would be mass shooter and again misses the mark toward the balance of liberty and public safety. Reducing magazines to 10 rounds is an attempt and long shot at best to restrict the less than .5% of the population from committing atrocities while the other 99.5% or above become felons overnight. This seems the wrong way to approach what is undoubtedly the bill author's attempt toward public safety. Even so picture advocacy and less restrictions providing opportunity for law-abiding citizenry to step up and defend themselves, their loved ones, or the public in the event of a potential tragedy because these situations do happen as well. I suppose my logic is that criminals do not care about gun laws...law abiding citizens do because we abide by the law. Realistically, these bills would only affect those who are intent on safe lawful use because criminals don't follow the laws. To

impose such restrictions would only impact those of us committed to and beholden to the law not the perpetrators who couldn't care less. These bills tie the hands of the law abiding. Funding that's allocated toward better public resources; a greater number of patrolling police officers, improved and distinct security measures put into place in schools and public buildings, and non-reduced sentencing that punishes those who have broken the law seems a better way to improve the safety of of the public in our society. If the criminal justice system understood the importance of keeping perpetrators off the streets or "making examples" of those who commit violent crimes perhaps the effect results in a broader widesread mindset that incubates more rational judgement in fear of potential punishment if caught thus providing greater deterance of criminal activity. Taking away rights of the law-abiding isn't a model solution in my view.

So in conclusion I would like these bills HF3433 and HF3402 to be voted down. Imposing such bills into law would not make our state safer anymore than limiting the speed of cars does for those intent on hurting people. It would simply make our state less free and give government more oversight and overreach into the customs and culture of what makes Minnesota such a great Midwestern state while stripping away Constitutionally protected liberties many of us are so happy to have. My hope is that you can understand more gun restrictions for the overwhelming majority law abiding isn't what Minnesota needs. Please vote down HF3433 and HF3402.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Josh

As your constituent from Wright County, I strongly oppose HF 3402 and HF 3433.

There is no real compromise here—only eventual confiscation. HF 3402 has no grandfathering: current owners must destroy, surrender, modify, or remove magazines from Minnesota, or face felony charges. HF 3433 offers only limited grandfathering for current owners, banning transfers, hunting, and more.

Around 40% of Minnesotans live in gun-owning households, often with multiple firearms. Nationally, the NSSF estimates 963 million detachable magazines in circulation, with 74% holding over 10 rounds—proving these are in common use and protected under the Second Amendment.

In 2023-2024, DFL Sens. Grant Hauschild, Robert Kupec, and Judy Seeberger publicly stated they would not support 2A infringements beyond red flag laws. I urge you to hold them to that word.

Freedom is rare in history, and disarming law-abiding citizens in peacetime risks turning them into felons overnight. Never forget that the same government that once set up snitch lines to turn neighbor against neighbor now seeks to criminalize responsible gun owners.

Do the right thing: vote NO on HF 3402 and HF 3433. Protect our ability—and our children's—to defend ourselves and our country.

Thank you,

Julius

I am writing to you not only as a constituent, but as a parent, a spouse, and a law-abiding American who cares deeply about my family, my community, and our country. I respectfully ask you to reconsider and oppose any new legislation that seeks to ban or further restrict semi-automatic rifles and standard magazine capacities.

For my family, firearms are not political symbols. They are part of our way of life. They represent time spent together in the outdoors, teaching our children patience and discipline while hunting, and spending long afternoons at the range practicing marksmanship and safety. These are moments of bonding, responsibility, and tradition that have been passed down through generations.

Owning firearms is not something we take

lightly. It is a serious responsibility — one that we approach with humility and care. We invest in proper training. We follow safe storage practices. We teach our children respect, not fear, and responsibility, not recklessness. We understand the weight of ownership, and we treat it accordingly. The overwhelming majority of gun owners in this country do the same.

The firearms being discussed in these proposed bans are commonly owned by responsible Americans. For us, they are tools — for hunting, sport shooting, target practice, and lawful self-defense. They are not “weapons of war” in the context of how we use them. They are safely stored, carefully maintained, and handled with respect. To characterize them otherwise dismisses the lived reality of millions of responsible citizens.

What concerns me most is the impact these laws would have on families like mine. Measures that restrict commonly owned firearms or standard magazines would not deter criminals who already ignore the law. Instead, they would place additional burdens on those of us who comply with every regulation, pass every background check, and strive to be responsible stewards of our rights. Law-abiding citizens should not face the risk of becoming criminals simply for owning property that was legally purchased and responsibly maintained.

This issue goes beyond policy for me. It touches on trust — trust between citizens and their representatives. I want to believe that my elected officials recognize the difference between criminals who misuse firearms and families who uphold the law. I want to believe that our voices matter just

as much as the loudest headlines.

Please stand with responsible gun owners.

Please protect the rights guaranteed to us and pursue solutions that directly address criminal behavior and mental health challenges rather than imposing broad restrictions on those who are not the problem.

I ask you sincerely and respectfully to oppose these bills and bans. My family's traditions, rights, and peace of mind are deeply affected by these decisions.

Thank you for your time, your service, and your careful consideration.

Respectfully,

Justin Kampa

+16512761952

Jkampa27@hotmail.com

Hello,

I'm writing today to voice my concern regarding the HF 3433 semi-automatic rifle ban and HF 3402 total ban on possession of magazines holding more than 10 rounds.

As a long time gun owner and supporter of the DFL I am deeply troubled by what I'm seeing. I understand that this is an attempt to address the scourge that is gun violence. I share the despair every time I hear of an act of violence involving a firearm. However, these bans will not work because they are not enforceable without violating the 4th amendment which is exactly what the federal government has been doing to us.

We all watched the federal government, through ICE, punish Minnesota. We witnessed them systematically trample our 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th, likely 6th and 8th amendment rights and it seems we somehow now face more attacks from our own representatives who claim to be on our side.

Banning modern sporting rifles and standard capacity magazines will not make the state or country a safer place. You cannot enforce these laws without taking a page out of the playbook that has hurt us all.

The vast majority of my fellow gun owners are just everyday people. We are doctors, mechanics, system administrators, lawyers, accountants, and business owners. Whether it is for hunting, sport and competition, or knowing we can protect ourselves and others from entities who wish us great harm.

I asked you all to focus on the root of the problems in our state and society as a whole and allow us to keep our constitutional rights intact.

Respectfully,

Justin Moore

Good Day

I'm writing to you regarding the numerous gun control bills being introduced this session.

They are all unconstitutional, and many states are currently in court cases fighting these laws.

They do not do anything to stop violent crime. They will turn turn 10s of thousands of law abiding Minnesotans' into felons.

If your true desire is to save lives, put and keep violent criminals in prison and develop some mental health programs as a way to spot and help those that need it. All of these items you wish to ban fall there common use and will not withstand scrutiny by the courts.

You're also taking away a sport that brings 100s of people together every weekend.

Justin Underwood
Taylors Falls MN

February 23, 2026

Dear Honorable Legislators of Minnesota

I am writing to express my serious constitutional concerns for the latest guns bills on the Minnesota legislative agenda: HF3433/SF3654 and HF3402/SF3714. These bills serve to criminalize ownership of “assault rifles,” including AR-15, and ownership of magazine clips of more than 10 rounds.

These bills focus on the instrument rather than the underlying drivers of violence, such as mental health instability and criminal intent.

A core premise behind classifying an arm as outside of the Second Amendment's protection is the idea that arm must be “dangerous and unusual.” In ordinary language, “unusual” means rare. The AR-15-style rifles are widely owned, by millions of U.S. citizens. The National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) has published estimates of “modern sporting rifles” (MSRs), a category that includes AR-platform and similar rifles in the civilian circulation, to the tune of 24 million firearms. AR-15-style rifles are among the most commonly owned rifles in the United States today. They are not “unusual” and are in common use. Thus, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *District of Columbia v. Heller (2008)*, that a class of arms commonly owned and used for lawful purposes is harder to place outside Second Amendment protection. This same logic can be applied to the proposed criminalization of high capacity magazines.

In addition, the wording of the bills is extremely worrisome. Any provision allowing entry into a private home without a warrant raises serious Fourth Amendment concerns, as the home receives the highest level of constitutional protection. A rule that would allow law enforcement to enter a private home without consent and without a warrant to “check compliance” is constitutionally suspect.

It is for these reasons that I ask you to reject these gun limitation bills. There are millions of law-abiding citizens whose rights will be stripped with these measures. I ask you to vote AGAINST these bills.



Sincerely,

K.M. Barrett

Hello Representative McDaniel,

I am a lifelong, proud resident of Minnesota. I am a law-abiding citizen residing in Minneapolis who cares deeply about my neighbors and my community. I have voted blue my entire adult life. I am also a gun-owner and gun-safety advocate. The proposed semi-automatic and magazine bans are complete overreach, made even more tone-deaf by the recent activities of DHS in our state.

Demanding citizens disarm themselves following the grievous indignities they have just suffered by the hands of the federal government is a humiliation. Furthermore, the idea put forth in the proposed semi-automatic ban that current owners of semi-automatic rifles must comply to warrantless inspections of our homes for engaging in our second amendment rights is also a breach of our fourth amendment rights.

Outside of the seemingly increasingly unimportant language of the constitution, passing a bill allowing for warrantless searches of law-abiding citizens would dissolve any of the remaining trust that our local government serves as a bastion against federal overreach or invasive surveillance. A real blow to the dwindling reserves of any remaining goodwill. Disarming the population immediately following an armed invasion by federal forces sends a crystal-clear message with whom Minnesota lawmakers stand, and it is not your constituents.

The 10 round capacity restriction, while less immediately alarming than warrantless search of our homes, is still completely absurd. 74% of the 963 million magazines produced or imported between 1990 and 2021 have a capacity of 11 or more rounds. This makes them standard capacity. These are in common use by lawful Minnesotans. Many handgun models do not even have the capability to accept magazines with 10 rounds or less. This turns a bulk of the lawfully-acquired firearms of law-abiding Minnesotans into worthless relics. This is a materially hefty cost you would demand of those who obey the law to incur on behalf of those who do not.

These bills would not increase public safety. The bans will not stop anyone with ill-intent from pursuing their ends. The root cause of the shootings that plague our society are not begat or solved by whether a bad actor can shoot 10 times before they reload or 15. All they would do is force destruction or forfeit of legally-obtained private property from those who intend to obey the law. Those who don't won't. If these bills pass, I will follow them. I am a law-abiding citizen. My career as a leftist who votes in local and federal elections will be over.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kai Peterson

2/23/2026

RE: HF 3433 and HF 3402

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is Katie Wolfe. I am a current resident of North Mankato, MN and lifetime Minnesota resident. I am an NRA Certified Pistol Instructor, MN BCA approve Permit to Carry Instructor, A Girl & A Gun Chapter Facilitator, mother, domestic abuse survivor, and law-abiding citizen.

I am writing to you today with concerns about the rights and safety of law-abiding citizens, and I strongly oppose these bills. The proposed HF 3433 and HF 3402 will negatively affect the ability for law-abiding citizens to protect themselves and their loved ones, while doing nothing to stop criminals.

HF 3433: Semi-Automatic Rifles are one of the most common types of firearms owned in the United States. I personally use them for training and competition.

HF 3402: Every magazine I own are "standard" capacity. Though these hold more than 10 rounds, they are not "high" capacity. They are standard equipment I personally use regularly for training purposes, which are designed for safe and reliable operation.

Banning these commonly owned tools would not deter criminals who are set out to hurt people or stop them from obtaining these items to do so, criminals do not follow laws. By passing these proposed bills, you would be limiting law abiding citizens, like myself to be able to protect myself and my loved ones; as well as participate in activities we love. You would be making law abiding citizens' felons, for possessing standard, commonly owned tools.

This ban will not make communities safer. It will make people less prepared to protect themselves.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Katie Wolfe

My name is Keith Bosacker, my family lives in Coon Rapids, and I strongly oppose HF 3433 and HF 3402.

Imagine waking up to the sound of your door being smashed in by multiple armed intruders—masked, guns drawn, ready to harm your family. Your spouse frozen in fear, children hiding, and you as their only protection. This terror has happened right here in Minnesota, and these bills would strip away the tools needed to defend against such overwhelming threats. By banning semi-automatic rifles and limiting magazines to 10 rounds, HF 3433 and HF 3402 disarm law-abiding citizens while criminals ignore the rules—turning potential survivors into helpless victims.

Take the chilling 2024 Coon Rapids triple homicide, just a couple miles from my home. Three armed men posing as UPS drivers burst into a family home one January morning. They pistol-whipped the husband, terrorized the wife, and executed her 20-year-old son when he fought back. Two young children hid, scarred for life, as the family was outnumbered, outgunned, and the adults murdered in cold blood. An AR-15 or similar rifle—the very "semiautomatic military-style assault weapons" HF 3433 targets for bans—could have given that father the rapid, accurate fire to repel the attackers and save his loved ones. Instead, they paid the ultimate price. A 10-round limit under HF 3402 would all but guarantee the victims lose when outnumbered by the intruders. How many more law-abiding Coon Rapids families — my neighbors, perhaps even yours — must endure this as we see these restrictions only empower predators?

Or consider the 2017 Madelia case, where 65-year-old David Pettersen faced three burglars at his rural home. He grabbed his .45 pistol and fired to stop the threat, killing one as they fled. Had the fight moved inside, a magazine over 10 rounds—banned without grandfathering under HF 3402—could have been vital for sustained defense without pausing under fire. Pettersen served 90 days but avoided worse; without effective tools, the outcome could have been deadly for him. Picture that isolation and fear in your own home—amplified by laws that limit your ability to match the odds. These bills don't just restrict guns; they erode the peace of mind every Minnesotan deserves, knowing we cannot shield our families from harm.

These Minnesota stories aren't abstract—they're gut-wrenching reminders of the evil lurking in our communities, from Coon Rapids suburbs to Madelia countryside. Families torn apart, lives shattered, all because the scales tipped toward aggressors. Data from defensive gun use compilations show armed citizens often face multiple intruders, prevailing only when equipped to overwhelm the threat. Criminals don't comply with bans; they exploit them.

And in today's reality, when seconds count, even calling 911 offers no guarantee of help. Amid widespread protests, chaos in the streets, and overlapping emergencies, Minneapolis police—already facing chronic staffing shortages—have been overwhelmed, struggling to respond to every 911 call. Reports from the area highlight how officers are caught in a "no-win" situation, where police simply can't keep up. I know of multiple heartbreaking instances where emergency calls went unanswered or delayed because there simply weren't enough officers on duty to dispatch. Picture a terrified woman in distress, her voice shaking as she pleads for help over the phone, only to hear that no one can come. That delay, that helplessness, could mean the difference between life and death in a home invasion. When police response times stretch into dangerous minutes—or don't come at all—our ability to defend ourselves becomes the only real safeguard.

Right now, as Minnesotans rally to defend our communities, against gang violence or even perceived federal overreach, ordinary people are stepping up with courage and solidarity. This same spirit of resistance—neighbors protecting neighbors, refusing to be bullied—fuels the fight for our Second Amendment rights. When threats come, whether from criminals breaking into homes or overreaching authorities, Minnesotans deserve the means to defend ourselves, not to be disarmed by state laws that favor vulnerability over vigilance.

HF 3433 and HF 3402 betray that promise, leaving us all to face the unimaginable with one hand tied while watching our loved ones be hurt. Preserving gun rights means safeguarding the innocent—our families, our home, our future. It's not about doing violence; it's about survival, and Minnesota deserves better.

If Minnesotan Leaders truly value the rights afforded by the First and Fourth Amendments, then you must protect the Second Amendment, it is the only reason the others remain free. Allow us, the citizens of Minnesota, the tools to protect our families through hardship, unrest, or overreach alike.

I urge the committee to OPPOSE HF 3433 and HF 3402 in their entirety.

Keith Bosacker

Coon Rapids, MN, 55433

Keith.bosacker@gmail.com

Hello,

I am writing in opposition to the upcoming hearings for an assault weapons ban and magazine ban. And really any and all gun control hearings or bills that will be coming up for this legislature session and all future sessions.

I have been a law-abiding citizen my whole life and these bills would potentially turn me into a felon overnight with the stroke of a pen while many others in this state are turned loose back onto the streets, or outright not even charged for very serious violent crimes that are already actual laws and are ignored by criminals.

These bills would do absolutely nothing to reduce crime as criminals don't follow the law to begin with. It would only turn many of our fellow Minnesotans into criminals for possessing a legally purchased item.

Thank you,

Keith Ulfers

Buffalo, MN

To: Ellen McDaniel - Minnesota House of Representatives

Regarding the (2) Referenced Proposed Bills

HF 3433 – Semi-Automatic Rifle Ban

HF 3402 – Total Ban on Possession of Magazines holding more than 10 rounds

These (2) Proposed Bills/Legislation seek to infringe upon my rights and I vehemently oppose both and/or any further attempts to reduce my rights.

Please start protecting my rights (i.e. your job) not searching for ways to reduce them.

Kelley D Kimball

Lino Lakes, MN

Hello Representatives,

This is in regards to HF3433 and HF3402.

I'm a DFL delegate for Senate district 43. I'll be doing my best to advance through the delegate process as far as I can go.

Your constituents feel unsafe (and indeed *are* unsafe). They're currently surviving in a world where poorly-trained armed agents of the federal government are roaming the streets, taking people to unknown locations and sometimes killing them in the streets. Agents of the Minnesota government such as police departments, sheriff departments, and the National Guard have either done nothing to resist this paramilitary, or actively aided them.

The people that you are responsible for advocating for need your help. They need rental assistance. They need grocery deliveries. They need legal aid. They need protection.

Instead of spending your time offering any of that, you're working to advance a bill that will make it even harder to defend themselves.

You're advancing bills that will ban common firearms that are rarely used in crime (FBI publishes stats on this that I'm sure you're aware of) and ban the most common sizes of magazines (many guns don't even have magazines that small available). This won't make a dent in mass shootings, and it won't make a dent in "regular" (for lack of a less gross word) shootings. One of the deadliest mass shootings this country has experienced, at Virginia Tech, rather famously involved two handguns and a bag of 10- and 15-round magazines.

Instead of helping Minnesotans, you're working to turn 1/3 of us into felons. This includes DFL voters, not just Republicans. I've personally had multiple left-leaning people reach out to me for advice on buying their first gun and getting training. They are not alone. It's a political mistake to push for such drastic gun control at this point in history. They are finding that they can't rely on the state to physically protect them from violence, and you are saying "you're not allowed to protect yourself, either." Your voters will remember that betrayal.

The betrayal is even starker in the light of the carve-outs for government officers and agents – the people who have proven look the other way, aid our abusers, or *be* our abusers. You're saying that it's OK for our abusers and their helpers to be given advantage over us.

The DFL is sabotaging itself with these bills. Democrats are poised to pick up a lot of seats after what the GOP has done. But instead, you're signaling to MN gun owners that they need to seriously consider voting Republican to spoil disenfranchising bills like this one. You're actively ceding power to the GOP at a time when they've never been more dangerous. There are a lot

of single-issue voters whose single issue is firearms. Simply dropping the subject would do so much for the Democratic party.

Frankly, this looks like controlled opposition. This advances the agenda of the most right-wing parts of the GOP. They want their victims to be soft targets, and you're helping them. These bills help people who want to physically harm my friends, me, and you.

Please, please focus your time on helping Minnesotans. That's why you were granted this position of power. There's a great deal that we need right now, and it's not these extreme bills. It's not pushing more people to the Republican party. It's not stripping our vulnerable neighbors of their last lines of defense. Our gun laws here are actually pretty sane and reasonable. You can leave them alone and rest easy.

Thank you,

Kevin Carlson

In Opposition to HF 3402 and HF 3433

My name is Kevin. I'm a 32-year-old Marine Corps veteran and lifelong Minnesotan, raised in Bloomington and now living and working in Saint Paul. As a Black citizen and someone with extensive knowledge of firearms, I urge you to understand that restricting magazine capacity and semi-automatic firearms will be completely ineffective in keeping us safe. These bills will only turn otherwise law-abiding Minnesotans into criminals simply for possessing items in common usage, further the division between police and citizens, and leave all of us defenseless as the future of our society is feeling less and less stable.

In 2020, we saw residents of the Cities patrolling their neighborhoods to protect their communities from crime when police could not, and those residents carried the exact weapons and magazines you're now trying to ban, lawfully and defensively. Since then, our local police departments and community leaders have been working hard to rebuild trust. These laws will once again set police against common members of the community. Ownership of these firearms, magazines, and Permits to Carry has surged since the killings of Good and Pretti, and notably among Minnesotans on the political left. The opinion of many DFL voters has shifted against bans like this. When Minnesotans have been asking our local government, police, and justice system to help us, is this really the time to criminalize us instead?

We have already seen what laws like these will do, with the Prohibition era or the War on Drugs. People who want these items despite the consequences will still get them, and the laws will more often be used as a pretext to harass minorities, fill prison cells, and strip away rights. Are our police departments, courts, and detention centers ready for the monumental strain of enforcing these laws? Is our economy ready for all the businesses, consumers, and taxpayers who will inevitably leave the state? I respectfully urge you not to pass HF 3402 or HF 3433.

Dear Members of the House Public Safety Committee,

Please accept this letter as my written testimony in opposition to HF 3433, HF 3402, and HF 3407, submitted ahead of the February 24th hearing.

I am a lifelong Minnesota gun owner. I have been a sport shooter since high school, and it is a passion that has connected me with an extraordinarily diverse community of Minnesotans — from doctors to blue collar workers, people of every background and walk of life — all of us law-abiding citizens who simply enjoy a legal hobby. I am also a white collar professional who contributes meaningfully to this state's tax base and economy. I am exactly the kind of resident Minnesota should want to keep.

These bills would make that impossible.

HF 3402 would require me to destroy or surrender every magazine I own. I want to be direct with the committee: every firearm I currently own came standard with a magazine holding more than ten rounds. This bill does not grandfather existing owners. It does not compensate me for property I purchased legally, and simply orders me to destroy it or hand it over to the government by July 1st. That is an unconstitutional seizure of private property without compensation, and it targets no one but law-abiding citizens like me. Criminals will not be turning in their magazines.

HF 3433's grandfathering provision is no less offensive. To keep a rifle I already own, I would be required to obtain a certificate at unknown cost, submit to warrant-less home inspections by law enforcement, and give up my right to hunt with that firearm. That is not regulation — it is confiscation by bureaucratic attrition.

I also need to address HF 3407, which I believe deserves serious scrutiny from this committee. I am a maker — I own 3D printers and CNC machines, and I use them as part of a creative hobby that has nothing to do with circumventing firearms laws. Section 2, Subdivision 4 of HF 3407 is so broadly worded that the mere possession or distribution of CAD files or digital design instructions could be criminalized, with penalties of up to five years imprisonment and a \$10,000 fine. This language would sweep up hobbyists, engineers, educators, and designers who have no connection whatsoever to illegal firearms manufacturing. In order to feel safe continuing my hobby under this bill, I would have no choice but to leave Minnesota entirely.

And that brings me to the broader point I want to leave with this committee. When you stack HF 3402, HF 3433, and HF 3407 together, you are not passing gun safety legislation. You are telling a significant portion of your law-abiding, tax-paying constituents that they have no future in this state. I am not the only one having this conversation. Many people I know — professionals, tradespeople, families — are weighing exactly the same decision. When we leave, we take our salaries, our spending, and our tax base with us. That is not a threat; it is simply the math of what these bills would set in motion.

Finally, I ask the committee to think about the context in which these bills are being considered. Two Minneapolis residents — Renee Good and Alex Pretti — were recently shot and killed by federal immigration agents under circumstances that have been called deeply into question. FBI investigations are ongoing. At a moment when federal agents are operating in our communities with lethal force and disputed accountability, the legislature's response should not be to further disarm the public. The Second Amendment is not merely about hunting or sport — it is a foundational check on the power of government over the individual. Disarming law-abiding citizens while that question remains open sends exactly the wrong message about where power in this state resides.

Please vote no on HF 3433, HF 3402, and HF 3407.

Respectfully submitted,
Kris Lee

**I oppose bill 3433
and bill 3402. These
bills defy the nature
of the 2nd
amendment, I don't
support them
sincerely**

Robert kroontje

**Written Testimony Submitted to the Minnesota House Public Safety Committee
Regarding HF3402, HF3433, and Related Proposals Submitted by: Kurt Elliason, Maple
Grove, Minnesota**

Chair and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting this written testimony as a lifelong resident of Minnesota to express my strong opposition to any proposed ban on commonly owned semi-automatic firearms and standard-capacity magazines, including bills HF3402 and HF3433 and any other similar proposals.

These firearms and magazines are used every day by responsible Minnesotans for lawful purposes such as self-defense, hunting, recreational shooting, and training. Their possession and use are clearly protected under the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution.

A ban on these items will not enhance public safety. Instead, it will impose new burdens on law-abiding gun owners while doing little to deter individuals who already disregard existing laws. Rather than creating new restrictions that risk criminalizing ordinary citizens, I urge the Legislature to prioritize enforcement of current statutes and ensure that those who commit violent crimes are held fully accountable.

As a Minnesota citizen, property owner, taxpayer, and voter, I respectfully request that the House Public Safety Committee vote **no** on any legislation seeking to ban semi-automatic firearms or standard-capacity magazines.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Kyle Jacket
628 Simpson Street
Saint Paul, MN 55104

February 23, 2026

Minnesota House of Representatives
DFL Caucus
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Re: Public Comments on HF 3433 and HF 3402

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to express my concern regarding bills *HF3433* and *HF3402* and the negative impact they would have on law-abiding firearms owners such as myself.

A ban on “military-style semi-automatic assault weapons” as defined in *HF3433* criminalizes possession of the most commonly used modern sporting rifles on the market. I bought an AR-15 because it was by far the most affordable and most easily usable, maintainable, and customizable platform on the market. Criminalizing modern sporting rifles would effectively put the ability to exercise the second amendment out of reach for the many Minnesotans who rely on them to hunt, target shoot, and protect their families.

A “high-capacity magazine” ban as provided for in *HF3402* would have similar consequences. *HF3402* defines a “high-capacity magazine” as any magazine with the ability to hold more than 10 rounds. To put that in perspective: my factory-stock Glock 19 handgun came standard with 15 round magazines. The industry standard size for a magazine for an AR-15 style rifle is 30 rounds. Most concerning, *HF3402* contains no grandfathering provision and would force law-abiding gunowners to dispose of their magazines and replace them with harder to find, non-standard magazines on short notice to comply with the law.

Our laws must strike a balance between personal liberty and public safety, and I readily concede that the very features that make AR-15 style rifles and 30 round magazines so popular with the shooting public are also what make them so incredibly dangerous in the wrong hands. The assassination of Melissa, Mark, and Gilbert Hortman in June of last year and the shooting at Annunciation just two months later that left two innocent children dead and an entire community traumatized are tragic reminders that we need to do more to prevent gun violence.

At the same time, Minnesota is in the bottom 10 States when ranked by rates of firearm-related deaths. The universal background check and “red flag” laws passed by our state legislature in recent years are examples of common-sense laws that keep Minnesotans safe. As a gun owner who agrees that it is “too easy to get a gun”, I would advocate for additional measures that are closer in spirit to those laws than the proposed blanket bans on certain types of firearms and magazines.

The Minnesota DNR requires that anyone born in 1980 or later successfully complete a 20 hour Firearms Safety Certification course in order to obtain a hunting license. Instead of the language proposed in *HF3433* and *HF3402*, I would suggest this body introduce a law that would extend the Firearms Safety Certificate requirement to anyone applying for a permit to purchase a handgun or semi-automatic “military-style assault weapon”. This would ensure that the firearm owning public is better educated on firearm operation, safety and storage, discourages “crimes of passion” by requiring a significant investment of time prior to the purchase of a handgun or semi-auto rifle, and provides ample time for instructors to “feel out” applicants and refer potentially dangerous actors to law enforcement for investigation and possible enactment of “red flag” provisions.

No one law will solve the uniquely American problem of gun violence and mass shootings, but I believe that statutes similar to the one I proposed do a much better job of balancing second amendment rights and personal liberty with public safety.

At the very least, introducing second amendment-limiting measures like *HF3433* and *HF3402* when Minnesota is currently the target of illegal overreach and violence from the Federal government is tone deaf at best and politically suicidal at worst. I strongly urge the members of your caucus to reconsider this legislation.

Sincerely,
Kyle Jacket

To the members of the Public Safety Committee:

My name is Kyle Leichter. I have lived in Minnesota all my life and currently reside in Minneapolis in District 61B. I am writing to oppose bills HF 3433 and HF 3402.

At a time when Minnesota residents are just beginning to recover from the violent occupation of our state by federal agents, it seems a strange choice to propose what would be one of the strictest policies of civilian disarmament in the country.

This bill is poised to consolidate the power to defend against violence to the government and the law enforcement that have clearly demonstrated they can't handle that responsibility. The terroristic occupation of our city by federal agents made it abundantly clear that our local governments are either unwilling or unable to defend their citizens from marauding enforcers who harassed, kidnapped, and killed our neighbors with impunity.

I do not advocate for violence. In fact, I object to it in the strongest terms. But history has shown time and again that an armed populace is harder to oppress. The knowledge that your victims have the means to meet force with force is a powerful deterrent. To be blunt, it is easy to find someone willing to kill for a paycheck. It is much harder to find someone willing to risk their lives for one.

This will deepen economic and social divides. The people who have the resources to either pre-buy firearms slated to be banned, or to find ways to circumvent this proposed bill are wealthy and white. The people who will be left out in the cold are the marginalized and vulnerable communities we just spent weeks so valiantly protecting. Protection from tyranny should not be reserved for those who can pay more for it.

Furthermore, the costs and logistics involved in enforcing this bill would be untenable for both the state and its citizens. The proposed language in HF 3433 regarding "safe storage" of firearms allows for warrantless searches by law enforcement of Minnesotan's homes to enforce compliance. How will this mass inspection be funded? And more importantly, how can we as a state support systematic, door-to-door law enforcement practices when we just so righteously opposed that behavior by ICE?

The proposed language of HF 3433 also calls for Minnesotans to pay an unspecified fee for each firearm they own for the privilege of exercising their constitutional rights within the state. Again, the people who will be most able to pay that fee are wealthy and white. This aspect of the proposed legislation is rife for disenfranchisement of our vulnerable communities.

The language of HF 3433 would effectively ban all modern semi-automatic rifles and many semi-automatic pistols designed within the last 60 years. The amount of effort involved in enforcing registration, storage laws, surrendering firearms to law enforcement, and prosecuting violations would be enormous, and this bill would not remove any of those firearms already present in the state.

Regarding the proposed language of HF 3402 is particularly fraught. It would require law-abiding citizens to immediately destroy or forfeit their property to the state for no compensation. It would make criminals out of tens of thousands of Minnesotans overnight.

The language of these bills reeks of the Everytown PAC, which funnels millions of dollars from billionaire donors into pushing highly restrictive, cookie-cutter bills on gun control with no consideration for what the residents of a state want or need. While it is not illegal, I find it highly distasteful that our politicians are willing to accept campaign donations in exchange for sponsoring bills written by paid lobbyists to advance the agenda of the wealthiest 1% of our country.

These bills aren't just bad policy, they're bad politics. I'm out here on the ground at protests, engaging in community defense and mutual aid, and I have seen people who have been staunchly anti-gun their whole lives approach their gun-owning friends and family and ask for advice on purchasing a firearm. The Minnesota chapter of The Liberal Gun Club has fielded more firearms training requests in the first two months of this year than in all of 2025. I suggest you look at the surge in permit-to-carry applications in the last month.

You can no longer rely on your constituents to support heavy-handed gun control. I urge you to read the room and consider what voters actually want, and not what professional lobbyists and super PACs are telling you to support. You have the option to engage in sound-bite politics by supporting these unreasonable bills, or you can reject them and preserve the ability of your constituents to protect themselves and each other in their hour of need. ICE will be back, and in greater force than before. We can either lie down and welcome their tyranny, or we can be prepared to stand fast in solidarity with our neighbors, and with the means to resist their violence fully intact.

I believe that our elected officials want to write good policy that helps their constituents. These bills, as they are written today, are not good policy. They will not hold up in court. Passing these bills would result in countless hours and dollars of taxpayer money wasted on legislation that will certainly be struck down by the 8th circuit court of appeals.

The intent behind these bills is not misguided, but the language of the bills is. Safe storage is a good idea. Keeping weapons out of the hands of criminals is a good idea. Protecting the citizens of Minnesota is a good idea. But these bills are not good ideas. They are heavy-

handed, reactionary, uninformed, and tone-deaf to the current situation your constituents are facing.

Like too many of my fellow Minnesotans, I have friends, coworkers, and neighbors who have been harassed, arrested, and disappeared by federal agents over the last two months. To quote Representative Tabke, "You don't need to crack open a history book to understand how horrific it is for an unaccountable pack of masked agents to disappear residents by the thousands and hold them indefinitely in rotating locations." I also propose you don't need to be a student of history to see the parallels between fascism today, and the fascism our grandparents fought a war to destroy.

We cannot with one hand be shaking our fists in righteous indignation at the abuses perpetrated by our federal government against our most vulnerable citizens, while with the other hand be reaching out to take from those citizens their means to protect against those abuses.

History tells us that the first step to oppression, persecution, and genocide is to disarm the population you intend to target. Turkey disarmed and then killed the Armenians in 1911. Stalin disarmed and killed his own people in 1929. Hitler disarmed and killed Jews, gypsies, homosexuals, and many more in 1938. China disarmed and killed political dissidents in 1935. Guatemala, Uganda, Cambodia, Rwanda all committed atrocious genocide after legally disarming their target populations.

We can see do better. We can continue to protect our most vulnerable communities. We take care of each other.

Written Testimony of Lance Wilson.

Before the Minnesota House Public Safety Committee.

23 February 2026

Chair and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Lance Wilson, and I am a lifelong Minnesota resident here to respectfully oppose the proposed semi-automatic rifle ban and the magazine capacity limit bills.

I believe it is in the public's best interest to preserve the Second Amendment rights of peaceable, law-abiding Minnesotans. These proposals, while well-intentioned, would primarily affect individuals who already follow the law, while doing little to deter those who do not. Criminal misuse of firearms is already illegal, and those intent on harming others consistently ignore existing restrictions. Adding new limits on responsible citizens does not address the root causes of violence.

Semi-automatic rifles and standard-capacity magazines are commonly owned by millions of Americans for lawful purposes — including hunting, sport shooting, and home defense. Restricting these tools would disproportionately impact people who use them safely and responsibly, especially in rural communities where firearms are an essential part of daily life and personal protection.

I also ask the committee to consider the practical challenges of enforcing bans of this nature. They risk creating confusion, uneven enforcement, and strained relationships between citizens and law enforcement, without delivering meaningful improvements in public safety.

Minnesotans share a common goal: we all want safer communities. I believe we can pursue that goal more effectively by focusing on measures that address violent offenders, improve mental-health resources, and support proven community-based interventions — rather than restricting the rights of people who are not the source of the problem.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I appreciate the difficult work you do, and I urge you to reject these bills in favor of solutions that protect both public safety and the constitutional rights and freedoms of peaceable citizens.

Respectfully,

Lance Wilson

4616 260th Ave, Clarkfield, MN 56223

February 20, 2026

To: Ellen McDaniel

From: Larry Hofmeister

Subject: HF 3433, HF 3402

Ms McDaniel,

Please accept this document as my written testimony in complete opposition to the two subject bills scheduled for hearing.

I've been a responsible gun owner since the late 1960's and a long time conceal and carry permit holder.

I'm fully aware of the emotions coming from gun related tragedies in our society. I'm in complete support of safe and secure gun storage. With this in mind I strenuously object to the actions these bills propose.

The key word here is gun **related** tragedies. Guns don't cause these things to happen. I'm reminded of the tongue in cheek joke about banning forks because of the obesity epidemic in our society. I'm also reminded of the quote going back to the Nixon era: "When guns are outlawed, only outlaws will have guns".

I possess semi-automatic guns that were passed down to me by my father, a WWII veteran. I'm now 75 years old and hope to pass them to my son when my time comes. My son will cherish and care for them the same way I do. I hope that he then is able to pass them on to my grandson when his time comes.

Even without the family tradition, these types of actions are not what our country or our state is about. We're proud, independent, God fearing individuals who can't tolerate government overreach.

I suggest government efforts would be more effectively spent on other efforts, such as reducing taxes, controlling fraud, keeping businesses in Minnesota, reducing mandates and eliminating ridiculous programs such as the ESST and Family Medical Leave acts, both well intentioned with significant side effects to businesses and prone to abuse and fraud.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Larry Hofmeister

24733 Hogan Ave

Hampton, MN 55031

Opposition to HF3433 and 3402.

My name is Lauren Getz and I DO NOT support these bills. These bills do nothing for firearms owners, and they do nothing for the general public that increases safety in any meaningful way. I moved to this state to get away from people who hated my existence, and the firearms laws were one of the biggest deciding factors and it's a factor I've heard from many other folks who have moved here. You would make your state immediately less attractive to folks looking for a safe haven, and you would hurt people already here by making felons out of legal firearms owners.

If this gets passed I will vote against anyone who voted for it and work to get it repealed. This is un-Constitutional and I ask that you consider what your actual second amendment exercising population would want, and whether that section of the population will vote for you should this be voted in favor of.

Oppose HF 3433 and HF 3402 — Protect the Rights of Law-Abiding Minnesotans

Representatives,

I am writing as your constituent to urge you to oppose HF 3433 and HF 3402. These bills raise immediate constitutional concerns. The Second Amendment protects the right of law-abiding citizens to keep and bear arms, and the Supreme Court has repeatedly affirmed that the government cannot ban firearms or accessories that are commonly owned for lawful purposes. Semi-automatic rifles and standard capacity magazines clearly meet that standard.

Despite this, HF 3433 and HF 3402 would impose sweeping bans on commonly owned semi-automatic rifles and standard capacity magazines — tools that millions of responsible Americans use every day for lawful purposes such as self-defense, hunting, and sport shooting. These bills would criminalize ordinary, law-abiding Minnesotans and impose restrictions that go far beyond what is reasonable, effective, or constitutional.

If enacted, these proposals would force your Minnesotan constituents into an impossible choice:

- Surrender legally owned firearms to law enforcement,
- Destroy their private property,
- Move their firearms and livelihoods out of state,
- Or become felons overnight.

This is not public safety. It is confiscation.

Semi-automatic rifles and standard capacity magazines are in common use across the country.

HF 3433 proposes a total ban on the sale, transfer, and possession of nearly all semi-automatic rifles in Minnesota. These firearms are in common use for lawful purposes, including hunting, sport shooting, and home defense. A ban of this scope would instantly turn responsible Minnesotans into felons, not because of harmful actions, but because of the tools they legally own.

HF 3402 would ban the manufacture, sale, transfer, and possession of magazines holding more than ten rounds. A 2024 study by the National Shooting Sports Foundation found that approximately 74% — roughly 717 million — of the 963 million magazines produced or imported between 1990 and 2021 hold more than ten rounds. When the overwhelming majority of magazines meet this standard, they are not “large capacity”; they are standard capacity. They are in common use by millions of responsible gun owners, including many here in Minnesota.

02/21/2026

Under *District of Columbia v. Heller* and *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen*, the government cannot ban firearms or accessories that are commonly owned for lawful purposes. These bills directly violate that constitutional framework.

Criminals will ignore these laws, just as they ignore existing ones. The only people who will be punished are the citizens who follow the law — your constituents.

I respectfully ask you to:

- Oppose the ban on semi-automatic rifles,
- Oppose the ban on standard capacity magazines, and
- Defend the constitutional rights of Minnesotans.

Fundamental rights are not negotiable. Please reject HF 3433 and HF 3402 and support solutions that address violence without criminalizing responsible gun owners.

Thank you for your time and for your service to our district.

Sincerely,

Alexandra C. Vetsch
Highland Park - Saint Paul, Minnesota

February 22, 2026

The Minnesota House Public Safety Committee
Minnesota State Capital
St. Paul, MN

Dear Minnesota House Public Safety Committee:

As a life-long resident of Minnesota, I am writing to strongly request that you

oppose bills HF 3433 & HF 3402,

which fundamentally change the legal access and use of firearms for law abiding citizens. I come from a multi-generational family with a tradition of hunting and sport shooting; all legally and without incident. Our family has always taken pride in the training, care, and safe handling of all things in our household that could pose harm. Be it a kitchen knife, circular saw, hammer, automobile, or firearm.

I applaud your efforts to curb societal violence, but those problems cannot be solved with these gun laws. Instead, I urge you to focus on mental health, drug and alcohol addiction, the over-use of prescription pharmaceuticals, and criminal leniency.

No matter the outcome of these bills, I have no doubt that you will inevitably be protected from criminals and mental defectives by the very items these bills will strip from law abiding citizens. Don't work to strip the good citizens of Minnesota of these same protections.

The world has had many examples of tragedy after regimes have disarmed their citizens. Learn from history, do not repeat it.

For the reasons listed above, I urge you to oppose HF 3433 and HF 3402. I would be pleased to supply additional information on this issue and answer any questions you may have. You may contact me at minnesotaliver@gmail.com.

Sincerely,



Lon DePoppe
St. James, MN
Watonwan County

2/20/2026

To Whom it may Concern

I am writing to express my strong opposition to HF 3402, which proposes a total ban on possession of magazines holding more than 10 rounds, and HF 3433, which proposes a ban on semi-automatic rifles. As a law-abiding Minnesotan, I believe these bills would unfairly impact responsible citizens, raise serious constitutional concerns, and ultimately do little to deter criminal activity.

HF 3402 would criminalize the possession of standard-capacity magazines that are commonly owned by responsible firearm owners across Minnesota and throughout the country. For many firearms sold today, magazines holding more than 10 rounds are standard equipment. These magazines are widely used for lawful purposes such as self-defense, recreational shooting, and competitive sports. A ban would force otherwise law-abiding citizens to surrender legally acquired property or face penalties, effectively turning responsible people into criminals despite having committed no wrongdoing.

Similarly, HF 3433 seeks to ban semi-automatic rifles, which are among the most commonly owned firearms in the United States. These rifles are used responsibly for target shooting, hunting where appropriate, and personal defense. A semi-automatic firearm fires one round per trigger pull, a function shared by many common firearms that have been legally owned for generations. Banning an entire category of widely owned firearms risks sweeping in tools that millions of Americans use safely and responsibly.

These proposals raise serious constitutional issues under the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution. In *District of Columbia v. Heller* (2008), the U.S. Supreme Court held that the Second Amendment protects an individual right to possess firearms for lawful purposes such as self-defense in the home and protects weapons “in common use.” That protection was applied to the states in *McDonald v. City of Chicago* (2010). More recently, in *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen* (2022), the Court clarified that firearm regulations must be consistent with the Nation’s historical tradition of firearm regulation.

Semi-automatic rifles and standard-capacity magazines are owned by millions of Americans for lawful purposes. Under the “common use” principle recognized in *Heller* and reaffirmed in *Bruen*, banning commonly possessed firearms and accessories raises serious constitutional questions. Laws that prohibit possession of widely owned, lawful firearms risk conflicting with established Supreme Court precedent and undermining fundamental constitutional protections.

My perspective on these issues is shaped by my immigrant roots from Mexico, a country known for highly restrictive firearm laws. Civilian gun ownership in Mexico is tightly regulated and centralized under federal authority. Despite these strict regulations, powerful criminal organizations such as the Sinaloa Cartel continue to operate with significant firepower, openly defying the law.

Mexico’s history also includes documented instances in which the government used force against its own population. The Tlatelolco massacre (1968) involved the killing of student protesters by government forces. The disappearance of 43 students in the Ayotzinapa case (2014) remains one of the most troubling human rights cases in recent Mexican history. During the administration of President Felipe Calderón, two students from the Monterrey Institute of Technology and Higher Education were killed by the military in an incident that raised serious concerns about accountability and the use of force.

These events underscore an important principle: when law-abiding citizens are heavily restricted from exercising the means of self-defense, while criminal actors or even government forces retain overwhelming power, the balance between the state and the individual can become dangerously uneven. Strict gun control in Mexico has not eliminated cartel violence nor prevented abuses of power. Instead, ordinary citizens often find themselves vulnerable.

Criminals, by definition, do not comply with laws. Individuals who intend to commit violent crimes are unlikely to obey magazine capacity limits or firearm bans. These proposals would primarily burden law-abiding citizens who follow the law, while those already willing to violate serious criminal statutes would remain unaffected.

Public safety is a shared goal. However, it must be pursued in a manner consistent with constitutional guarantees. Rather than implementing broad bans, lawmakers should focus on enforcing existing laws, addressing repeat violent offenders, improving mental health resources, and strengthening reporting systems.

In conclusion, HF 3402 and HF 3433 would significantly impact responsible, law-abiding Minnesotans while offering uncertain public safety benefits. They raise serious constitutional concerns under established Supreme Court precedent and risk penalizing those who follow the law while failing to deter those who do not.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Luis Ortiz". The signature is stylized and cursive, with the first name "Luis" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Ortiz".

Luis Ortiz

Hello,

I'm writing because I don't agree with the proposed bills HF 3433 and HF 3402 that aren't going to benefit the public. The people these laws affect are law abiding, tax paying people who are using these guns lawfully. The people who use these guns unlawfully have been criminals. Criminals don't follow the law. So these laws won't affect them. These laws will only hurt people who actually follow the law. I don't believe in taking away home defense. The guns are not the problem. The criminals and mentally ill are.

Dear Ellen McDaniel,

I am writing to you as a constituent and as someone who deeply values the freedoms guaranteed by our Constitution, particularly those protected by the Second Amendment.

The Second Amendment represents more than firearm ownership to me—it symbolizes the fundamental principle that individual rights are not granted by government, but protected from government overreach. For generations, Americans have relied on this right for lawful purposes such as self-defense, protecting their families, hunting, and preserving a tradition of responsible firearm ownership.

I respectfully urge you to carefully consider any legislation that would restrict the rights of law-abiding citizens. While I understand and support efforts to reduce crime and improve public safety, I believe those goals must be pursued without undermining constitutional freedoms. Policies that target responsible gun owners rather than criminals risk eroding trust and punishing those who follow the law.

As your constituent, I ask that you defend the Second Amendment and oppose measures that would unduly infringe upon it. I also encourage you to support solutions that address violence at its root causes—such as mental health resources, enforcement of existing laws, and community-based prevention—without diminishing the rights of responsible Americans.

It is very important that law makers vote against the upcoming proposed bill in order to ensure law abiding MN residents do not lose their constitutional rights. The recent ICE raids should be a very clear example to liberals of why these rights are important.

Thank you for your time, your service, and your consideration of my views. I appreciate your attention to this important matter and look forward to seeing you uphold the constitutional rights of the citizens you represent.

Sincerely,
Luke

February, 23, 2026

Subject: Written Testimony Regarding Proposed Firearm Ban

Dear Madams and Sirs,

Before I speak to this legislation directly, I want to briefly explain where my perspective comes from.

I am a fifth-generation Minnesotan, with family roots in Winona County's bluff country, but now right here in St. Paul, where my father was educated at William Mitchel in the late 70s, and I at St. Thomas' Opus School to earn my MBA. I grew up following my father into the woods from a very young age - squirrel hunting in the fall, sitting quietly during spring turkey season, and waking long before sunrise for the annual deer opener. Some of my earliest and most formative memories are not of firearms themselves, but of responsibility, patience, safety, and respect. A firearm was never presented to me as a symbol of power. It was a tool. One that demanded discipline and humility.

Like many Minnesota kids, I did not simply inherit that responsibility; I earned it. I completed a Department of Natural Resources firearm safety course taught by our local DNR representative at the West Saint Paul Police Station and City Hall. We were taught safe handling, safe storage, lawful use, and above all, the gravity of what a firearm is. It was serious. It was structured. It was clear that misuse would not be tolerated - morally or legally.

From that foundation, I aspired to become a hunter not because of politics, but because of tradition, stewardship, and connection to land and family. That background shapes how I view the issue before you today.

The violence we have witnessed in our state and across this country is horrific. When young people are killed in places of worship, when families are torn apart in public spaces, when children do not return home from school - something inside all of us breaks. It is impossible to witness those events without feeling grief, anger, and urgency.

No responsible citizen defends murder. No lawful gun owner believes there is a "right" to harm innocent people. On that point, we are united. The pain is real. The outrage is real. And the desire to prevent it from ever happening again is something we all share.

I believe every member of this body is motivated by a sincere desire to protect Minnesotans. We may disagree on the mechanism, but I do not question the intent. We all want safer schools, safer churches, and safer communities. The question before us is not whether to act, but how to act in a way that meaningfully addresses the root causes of violence.

However, opposing this firearm ban is not a vote in favor of violence. It is not indifference to suffering. It is not extremism. It is a position grounded in the belief that if we mis-identify the root of a problem, we will fail to solve it.

The individuals who commit acts of mass violence are deeply troubled long before they ever obtain a weapon. The moral collapse occurs first. The isolation, grievance, and instability occur first. The weapon is the final instrument - not the origin of the breakdown.

If we respond only to the instrument and avoid confronting the underlying causes, such as mental health failures, breakdowns in community, or missed intervention points, we risk repeating this cycle under a different set of tools.

The terminology used in this debate also deserves careful scrutiny. Phrases such as “assault weapon” carry significant emotional weight but lack a consistent technical definition. “Semi-automatic” describes a mechanical function - one trigger pull per round - not a category of intent or moral character.

Many of the firearms often discussed under these classifications are commonly owned by law-abiding Minnesotans for hunting, sport shooting, and lawful self-defense. Fully automatic firearms are already heavily restricted under federal law and have been for decades. If legislation is to be effective and durable, it must be precise. Emotional terminology may energize a debate, but precision determines whether policy actually works.

When harm results from the misuse of a legal product - whether alcohol, vehicles, or pharmaceuticals - we do not automatically outlaw the product for every responsible user. We target criminal behavior. We strengthen enforcement. We refine safeguards. We invest in prevention and education. That layered approach is difficult and often slow, but it is serious.

Punishing hundreds of thousands of responsible firearm owners for the actions of a few deeply disturbed individuals does not directly address the conditions that created those individuals in the first place.

If we truly want to reduce violence, we must be willing to confront harder conversations:

Why are warning signs so often missed?

Where are the gaps in mental health access and crisis response?

Why are some young people experiencing profound isolation and grievance?

How do we strengthen early intervention and community accountability?

These conversations are not simple. They require humility and bipartisan resolve. But they are necessary if we intend to create lasting change rather than symbolic action.

Grief demands action. Wisdom demands precision.

I respectfully urge this body to carefully consider whether this legislation addresses the root causes of violence or whether it risks offering a solution that feels decisive without being transformative.

Minnesota deserves thoughtful, evidence-based policy that directly targets violent actors while preserving the constitutional rights of law-abiding citizens. We can mourn the victims, honor their lives, and pursue real solutions — all at the same time.

Thank you for your time and your service to our state.

Respectfully,

Luke Nilles

St. Paul, Minnesota

DUE BY 3:00PM MONDAY FEB. 23, 2026

TO: Ellen.McDaniel@house.mn.gov

FROM: Marc Olivier

RE: MN House Ways & Means Committee Hearings on HF 3433 and HF 3402

WRITTEN TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO BILLS HF 3433 AND HF 3402

This Legislature has introduced two gun control bills for the current session. HF 3402 is offered for purpose of banning certain gun magazines holding more than 10 rounds. HF 3433 is offered as a ban on semi-automatic rifles.

Both bills represent an egregious abuse of legislative authority, violating the 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th, 6th and 14th Amendments.

Ownership of working firearms (actually ANY arms) is an enumerated right in the US Constitution via the 2nd Amendment. However such ownership ALSO exemplifies freedom of expression, the expression of the freedom to own arms to protect life and property as well as for sheer aesthetics. This is part of the 1st Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

Both bills effectively seek to usurp the rights of ownership, a clear violation of the 4th, 5th, and 14th Amendments. Under the bills, mere ownership – without ANY ACTUAL CRIME HAVING BEEN COMMITTED – is criminalized, and due process rights are involuntarily waived by legislative decree only.

I can't help but notice that State, county and city officials are hopping mad about federal agents actions here recently and demanding judicial warrants be presented before entering private property. But here, with these bills, the same officials brazenly seek to bully and trample due process rights of people living their lives peaceably, who are often making positive contributions to their communities, and paying taxes.

To be blunt, laws passed by this body have gone unenforced, police activity has been hidden behind encryption, and violent repeat offenders as still spun through the criminal justice system which chooses NOT to enforce laws these offenders violate; rather they are allowed to plea bargain to much lesser offenses for much lesser penalties. Given these facts and random acts of violence, vandalism, home invasions, assaults, any legislative attempt to interfere with citizens' rights and abilities to defend home and property is intolerable and will not be accepted.

Ellen McDaniel
Committee Administrator - DFL Caucus

Rep. David Pinto
District 64b

Rep. David Pinto,

I am writing as your constituent to ask you to reconsider the outright ban on the possession of commonly owned semi-automatic firearms, and standard magazines, as described in bills HF3434 and HF3433.

I understand the anger and fear that inspired these bills, and the feeling that some action must be taken after the assassinations of Melissa and Mark Hortman, the horror at Annunciation, and many other terrible tragedies that involve guns.

I have a kid, I understand family, and I feel pain imagining the suffering of victims in our state. I'm scared too.

But while I'm worried about deranged criminals owning and using guns to hurt me and my family, I don't expect making arbitrary styles of weapons illegal to prevent it. Murder is already illegal.

Since December, I am *more* worried about me or my family being assaulted, injured, kidnapped, or **killed by law "enforcement", or federal agents than by other citizens of Minnesota who have satisfied existing background check and gun purchase requirements.**

If the bills removed the exceptions for these officers and agents, I could be convinced.

If these 'weapons of war' have no place on our streets and in our state, let's get them off the streets and out of the state - including for law enforcement.

Thank you,

-Mark

Ms. McDaniel,

I am writing you in opposition of bills; HF 3402 and HF 3433.

As a legal gun owner and resident of the state of Minnesota, and Veteran of the US Marine Corps, both bills will negatively impact me as an owner of the firearms and firearm parts described in both bills. I spent my time in the military firing weapons that *resemble* the firearms that are mentioned in the bill. These firearms, however, are not the same. They are merely replicas of those used by the military. They function very differently.

The firearms that are described in the bills function the same way as most semi-automatic pistols. The only difference is that the barrel is longer. These rifles are used for hunting or for sport. Prohibiting them due to the way they look, or function is not the basis of a legitimate reasoning for such prohibition.

I absolutely understand the fear associated with them, as they *resemble* weapons of war. If that reasoning is being applied to firearms, it doesn't make sense to not apply it in other ways.

Why does law enforcement use armored personnel carriers (APCs)? This isn't a warzone.

I own multiple magazines that hold more than 10 rounds. In fact, I believe I only own one magazine that holds less than 10 rounds. Prohibiting the ownership of these magazines would have the outcome of making me a criminal, act in a way that is can only be construed as punishment, and cost me hundreds, if not thousands of dollars if they were to be destroyed.

How would this magazine ownership be enforced? Is there an expectation that police would go door to door inspecting homes to ensure that there aren't any magazines over 10 rounds?

Within the last few months, the state has been dealing with an authoritative federal government sending federal agents and having them go door to door. Is that the plan? To mimic that?

Same goes for ensuring the security of enforcement of prohibited firearms. Those that are grandfathered and decide to keep their firearms, police are going to enter the home to ensure they're locked in a safe? That doesn't sound insane to anyone?

According to the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (MN BCA), the number of permit-to-carry applications has increased nearly 75%, January 2025 compared to January 2026. These permit applications are a direct reaction to the federal government's occupation in the state.

If you spend any time in any gun communities, you will notice that a lot of the new owners are coming from the left side of the aisle. As a supporter of the constitution, the entire thing, it brings me joy that all parts of the political spectrum are finally understanding the point of the second amendment. Unfortunately, any attempt to prohibit specific types of firearms, will only weaken the defenses of the people.

The federal government isn't playing around. There is far too much authoritative rhetoric coming from the current administration. Now is not the time to prohibit the people's only legal means of defense against tyranny.

I do not support any bills restricting firearms use, ownership, or anything related to such activities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Peterson II', written over a horizontal line.

Mark Peterson II

USMC 2005-2017

To the Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee,

I am writing to strongly urge you to oppose any proposed ban on commonly owned semi-automatic firearms, standard-capacity magazines, or similar legislation. These firearms and magazines are used every day by peaceable Minnesotans for self-defense, hunting, sport shooting, and training — and they are clearly protected under the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Constitution of the United States

Second Amendment

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

Banning them will not make Minnesota safer. It will only punish law-abiding gun owners while doing nothing to stop criminals who ignore the law. I expect you to vote NO on any attempt to ban semi-automatic firearms or magazines. The second amendment to the constitution is clear. "Shall not be infringed."

As a woman who enjoys sport shooting, and as a woman who wants to be safe. A gun levels the playing field if a rough person or persons approach with intent to harm. Do not take away our safety as women. Minnesota already has strong gun laws in place.

Thank you for your service & dedication to protecting all Minnesotans.

Mary Kjer

A retired Marine veterans wife and mother of a son who is a Marine Veteran.



Dear Representative,

I am writing to you today as a constituent and a law-abiding gun owner to express my **firm opposition** to **HF 3433** and **HF 3402**. I have the same goal of increasing public safety but these specific bills fail to address the root causes of violence and instead place an unconstitutional burden on the rights of peaceful Minnesotans.

HF 3433 seeks to ban commonly owned semiautomatic firearms. This targets the same tools that millions of Americans rely on for home defense and sporting purposes. These firearms are in "common use" and are protected under the Second Amendment, banning them based on cosmetic or ergonomic features does nothing to deter criminal intent. Likewise, the magazine capacity limits proposed in HF 3402 are very concerning. Mandating a ten-round limit without a grandfather

clause for existing magazines is insanity. This legislation effectively turns thousands of law-abiding citizens into felons overnight or forces the surrender of private property without just compensation. Rather than restricting the rights of those who follow the law, I urge the legislature to focus on the rigorous enforcement of existing statutes and addressing the mental health and socioeconomic factors that drive crime. I ask that you **vote NO** on HF 3433 and HF 3402 to protect the constitutional rights and the safety of your constituents.

Thank you for hearing my concerns on this critical issue.

Sincerely,
Matt Karr

Subject: Opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402

Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Matthew Bauer, and I am a Minnesota resident and a lawful firearm owner. I am writing to respectfully oppose **HF 3433** and **HF 3402**.

I take my responsibilities as a gun owner seriously. I comply with all current Minnesota laws, securely store my firearms, complete background checks, and use my firearms for lawful purposes such as recreation, training, and personal defense. These bills would directly impact me and other responsible Minnesotans who have done nothing wrong.

Impact of HF 3433

HF 3433 would prohibit possession of many commonly owned semiautomatic firearms based on cosmetic features rather than misuse or criminal behavior. Firearms that are widely owned across the country for lawful purposes would suddenly become prohibited in Minnesota.

If enacted, this bill could:

- Criminalize possession of firearms that I legally purchased.
- Force me to surrender valuable property without meaningful compensation.
- Create confusion due to broad and technical definitions that may not be clear to ordinary citizens.

These firearms are not unusual or exotic; they are among the most common types owned in America. Penalizing lawful possession does not target criminal misuse — it targets compliance.

Impact of HF 3402

HF 3402 would prohibit possession of magazines over a certain capacity, even if they were legally acquired. Standard-capacity magazines that come factory-issued with many common firearms could become illegal overnight.

This would:

- Require surrender or disposal of property I lawfully purchased.
- Reduce the functionality of firearms I use for lawful purposes.
- Place otherwise responsible citizens at risk of criminal penalties for continued possession.

Again, the burden falls on those who already follow the law.

Broader Concerns

As a responsible gun owner, I believe public safety is critically important. However, legislation that broadly restricts ownership based on equipment features does not address the root causes of

violent crime. Criminals, by definition, do not comply with firearm laws. Expanding prohibitions on lawful ownership risks eroding trust between citizens and the state while doing little to deter those already willing to break the law.

Minnesota has a strong tradition of responsible gun ownership, hunting, sport shooting, and lawful self-defense. I respectfully urge you to consider the unintended consequences of these bills on ordinary, law-abiding residents.

Please oppose HF 3433 and HF 3402.

Thank you for your time and service to our state.

Respectfully,
Matthew Bauer
Roseville, Minnesota

I am formally lodging my opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402, as both a resident of Minnesota and a DFL delegate representing SD 65. In the past couple of months we have witnessed firsthand the effects of a tyrannical government let loose on our streets. We have seen both state and federal laws broken, and a failure on the part of local law enforcement to enforce existing statutes, often with the justification of officer safety - that they are simply outgunned.

We have also seen a powerful resistance to this assault on our communities arise from our neighbors. One of the many powerful things about this resistance has been that it has been peaceful - but also that it has oftentimes been armed. We have seen armed individuals and groups such as the Black Panthers successfully protect members of their communities through a powerful presence deterring to federal agents - and access to semi-automatic rifles as well as common magazine sizes has been essential to this success.

We have seen an increase in marginalized groups and their allies seeking to obtain permits to purchase and permits to carry. This is born out of a clear and present need of the current reality, and now is not the time to make them less able to protect themselves and those they care about.

We were promised an end to this occupation, but instead, federal agents have made themselves less visible and have invaded our suburbs. We cannot know what the next months or even years will hold, but we can rely on the patterns we've seen: a federal government that will lie, illegally detain, and treat any human - citizen or not - as disposable, a precarious political situation that has limited state and local governments from pushing back too hard, and an ever-increasing need for communities on the ground to take care of and protect each other.

HF 3433 and HF 3402 are bills written for an alternate reality in which access to firearms and common magazines pose a larger threat to the public than a tyrannical federal government. It was debatable whether or not that was the case before 2026. Today, this can no longer be said to be the case. At a minimum, this is not the time to be restricting lawful firearm ownership. I implore any and all members of the Minnesota legislature who wish to represent the best interests of their constituents and the state of Minnesota as a whole to vote no to both of these bills.

Dear Elected Officials of the Minnesota House of Representatives and Senate,

I am writing as a lifelong Minnesota resident urging you to oppose any proposed ban on commonly owned semi-automatic firearms, standard-capacity magazines, or similar legislation. In particular, HF 3433, SF 3654, HF 3402, and SF 3714.

These firearms and magazines are used every day by peaceable Minnesotans for self-defense, hunting, and sport shooting, a martial art. They are also clearly protected under the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Through a lifelong passion for sport shooting in this state, I have found a love of the outdoors, a community, a recreational activity, and a martial art. To restrict access to the tools of that sport would greatly hamper my life.

Banning them will not make Minnesota safer. It will only punish law-abiding gun owners while doing nothing to stop criminals who ignore the law. To criminalize law-abiding citizens in Minnesota, overnight, just for owning a firearm as these bills would do, is an injustice and will not further the cause of public safety. To expect law enforcement to enter a citizen's home to ascertain "safe storage" as mentioned in HF 3433 is a fool's errand. Not only do local police departments not have the manpower to enforce such things, such attempts to ascertain safe storage would put everyone involved at risk of bodily harm. I do not want law enforcement to be able to enter my home simply because I own a firearm which was made illegal after I legally purchased it with a stroke of the pen and banging of the gavel.

Moreover, according to a 2024 study by the National Shooting Sports Federation (NSSF), seventy-four percent (74%) of all firearm magazines manufactured from 1990 to 2021 have a capacity of 11 rounds or more. This means there are millions of them in this state, and this nation. This makes them standard capacity ammunition feeding devices in common usage. They are not "high capacity". They are standard capacity.

To try and restrict magazines is a pointless and draconian measure. They are non-serialized metal or plastic boxes with springs and followers. There is no reasonable way to control their transportation or production. The 1994 Federal Assault Weapons Ban (subtitle A of title XI of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994) which included such a provision did not result in decreased rates of violent crime and did not stop the acquisition of so-called "high capacity magazines" as one could simply replace the internal components in a ban-compliant magazine to allow for full, standard capacity.

Laws attempting to regulate the supply of firearms or related devices are not the solution to violent crime. As your constituent, I expect you to vote NO on any attempt to ban semi-automatic firearms or magazines.

I am a member of the Minnesota Gun Owners Caucus who will be speaking for me. Right now, I am writing for myself.

Please, I beg you, do NOT support HF 3433/SF 3654 or HF 3402/SF 3714.

Sincerely,

Max Johnson

Dear Ms. McDaniel,

I am contacting you to voice my opposition to the passage of HR 3433 and HR 3402 regarding the ban on semi-automatic rifles and high capacity magazines in Minnesota.

Once again, we are faced with politicians who are ignorant about the biased untruths of shooting statistics, weapons characteristics, and are attempting to disarm the public and deny them their 2nd Amendment rights.

Why is it that when a mob of Somali criminals defraud the country that welcomed them here, we're not to label all Somalis as criminals. However, when a mental case shoots up the public, all gun owners get labeled the same, and therefore risk losing their right to protect themselves from these mental cases.

I would love to see some Democratic lawmakers show some backbone and acknowledge the facts of these shootings and gun ownership in general, instead of voting along party lines. The media or the radical Democratic left never covers the armed citizen who protects him or others to prevent these tragedies.

Banning all the weaponry in this ignorant bill will not change anything. If a person wants to kill, they will, with or without this legislation. This restriction on gun ownership wouldn't have helped Charlie Kirk, but again, the media turns a blind eye to that scenario, as well.

My family has a rich history of hunting in this state, with a semi-automatic rifle or shotgun being a staple of that tradition. NO ONE in my family heritage or associations has a history of abusing their 2nd Amendment right. Infringing on that right is a slap in the face to all sportspeople in Minnesota, and the passage of these bills would instantly make felons out of these residents. That being said, as a lifelong Minnesota resident, voter, and gun owner, I protest this ridiculous bill and implore you to vote NO on it in it's entirety.

Sincerely,

Michael Allen
6547 Countryside Drive
Eden Prairie, MN 55346

TO: Minnesota House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee

FROM: Michael Babcock

RE: Opposition to HF 3402 (Magazine Ban) and HF 3433 (Semi-Automatic Rifle Ban)

DATE: February 20th, 2026 (submission)

Chair Moller and Members of the Committee:

My name is Michael Babcock, and I am a resident of Saint Paul, Minnesota. I am writing to strongly oppose both HF 3402 and HF 3433. As a law-abiding gun owner, I view these bills not as public safety measures, but as direct attacks on the rights, property, and family legacies of Minnesota citizens who have done nothing wrong.

Impact on Law-Abiding Citizens vs. Criminals The fatal flaw in both HF 3402 and HF 3433 is that they exclusively penalize those who follow the law. Predatory criminals, by definition, do not obey statutes. A criminal intent on doing harm will not be deterred by a magazine capacity limit or a ban on a specific grip feature.

HF 3402, which bans the possession of magazines holding more than 10 rounds with *no grandfather clause*, effectively turns tens of thousands of peaceable Minnesotans into felons overnight if they do not surrender or destroy their legally purchased property by July 1, 2026. This is not a public safety measure; it is a confiscation scheme that targets the standard equipment found in the majority of modern firearms used for self-defense.

Destruction of Family Legacies and Inheritance I am particularly alarmed by the provisions in HF 3433 regarding the transfer of firearms. For many Minnesotans, firearms are not just tools; they are heirlooms passed down from parents to children, representing a family tradition of hunting, sport shooting, and safety education.

Under HF 3433 (Section 2, Subd. 4f), even if a current owner is "grandfathered" in, they are prohibited from passing these firearms down to their children. Upon the owner's death, the heir has 120 days to surrender the firearm for destruction, modify it, or remove it from the state. This legislation seeks to extinguish the culture of lawful gun ownership within a single generation by mandating what amounts to confiscation upon death. It destroys the ability of a father or mother to pass a cherished possession to their son or daughter.

Constitutional Validity and Supreme Court Precedent These bills are fundamentally incompatible with the Second Amendment as interpreted by the United States Supreme Court.

1. **"Common Use" Standard (*DC v. Heller*):** The Supreme Court established that arms in "common use" for lawful purposes are protected. The semi-automatic rifles targeted by HF 3433 and the standard-capacity magazines (>10 rounds) banned by HF 3402 are

among the most popular firearm owners in the United States. They are undeniably in common use.

2. **History and Tradition (*NYSRPA v. Bruen*):** In *Bruen*, the Court ruled that for a firearm regulation to be constitutional, the government must demonstrate that the regulation is consistent with the Nation's historical tradition of firearm regulation. There is no historical analogue from the Founding Era that supports banning common firearms or restricting ammunition capacity.
3. **Modern Arms (*NYSRPA v. Bruen*):** The Court has explicitly rejected the argument that the Second Amendment only protects weapons in existence in the 18th century. It extends, *prima facie*, to all instruments that constitute bearable arms.

Conclusion HF 3402 and HF 3433 will not stop violent crime. Instead, they will strip law-abiding Minnesotans of their ability to effectively defend themselves, destroy the value of legally owned property, and sever the generational bond of passing down family heirlooms.

I urge you to vote **NO** on both HF 3402 and HF 3433. Focus on enforcing existing laws against violent offenders rather than criminalizing the constitutional rights of your constituents.

Sincerely,

Michael Babcock

1185 Burnquist Street
Saint Paul, MN 55106

Michael Shepard
West Saint Paul, MN 55118
805-689-0686
MichaelHShepard@icloud.com
February 21, 2026

Dear Members of the House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee,

My name is Michael Shepard, and I am a resident of West Saint Paul, Minnesota. I write to share my concerns about HF 3433 and HF 3402. I understand the committee's focus on public safety, violence prevention, and the funding of Minnesota's criminal justice system, and I share those goals. I respectfully urge careful review of these bills, as the evidence suggests they are unlikely to materially reduce gun violence, and instead will impose significant burdens on hundreds of thousands of law-abiding Minnesotans, as well as carry substantial fiscal and legal risks for the state.

The Scale of Impact on Law-Abiding Minnesotans

Minnesota has a high rate of gun ownership, with approximately 43% of households owning at least one firearm.¹ There are likely over 32 million AR-15–style rifles in national circulation since 1990,² suggesting proportionally that Minnesota may have 500,000 to 700,000 or more of these legally owned rifles. Likewise, industry and ATF estimate that there are over 750 million magazines in civilian hands within the United States that have a capacity greater than 10 rounds,³ and therefore a proportional estimate places 10 to 14 million of these magazines in Minnesota. Of note, the valuation of these magazines could exceed \$250 to \$350 million (estimated assuming a conservative valuation of \$25 per magazine), which is private property that would be required to be surrendered or destroyed without compensation, or otherwise transferred out of state.

Any legislation affecting these lawfully purchased firearms and standard-capacity magazines affects a significant share of Minnesota's roughly 1 million legal gun-owning households. Most importantly, nearly all these owners – your constituents – use their firearms entirely lawfully: for hunting, target shooting, farm pest control, training, and personal protection.

What Minnesota Data Shows About Gun Violence

Recent trends suggest current, targeted law enforcement strategies are working. In 2025, Minneapolis homicides fell 16% from the prior year, with gunshot wound victims down 18% from 2021 levels.⁴ In Saint Paul, homicides dropped over 50%, and gun violence in key Minneapolis areas reached its lowest levels since 2008.⁵ These are meaningful gains worth protecting.

These positive trends coexist with a critical fact in the underlying crime data: rifles, including AR-15s, are rarely the weapon involved. Of Minnesota's 2024 homicides where the firearm type was reported, approximately 60 involved handguns compared to only 3 involving rifles.⁶ This is consistent with long-standing state and FBI national data showing handguns account for approximately 80 to 90% of firearm homicides.⁷ Specific to Minnesota, when looking at any type of gun violence used against persons from 2023–2025 (includes non-fatal and non-shooting incidents such as intimidation, assault, etc.), handguns accounted for 4,628 offenses statewide while all rifles – including AR-15–style rifles – accounted for only 218, less than 5%.⁸

Equally important: suicides consistently account for roughly two-thirds of firearm deaths in Minnesota, far outpacing homicides.⁹ This suggests that prevention efforts focused on mental health, crisis intervention, and risk-based responses would address a far larger share of overall gun deaths than restrictions on specific rifle types. Critically, research also shows that many perpetrators of high-profile mass violence exhibit prior signs of acute crisis or suicidal ideation, reinforcing the case for upstream mental health intervention as a more direct path to preventing both suicides and mass violence. Even one high-profile tragedy is devastating, and prevention must remain a priority, with a direct focus on the underlying causes and mental health drivers, rather than broad restrictions on specific firearm types and magazines.

Why These Specific Restrictions Are Unlikely to Reduce Violence

When it comes to weapons bans, the federal experience is instructive. A DOJ/NIJ evaluation of the 1994–2004 federal assault weapons ban found “no discernible reduction

in the lethality and injuriousness of gun violence,” and concludes that any effects were “likely to be small at best and perhaps too small for reliable measurement” – precisely because such weapons were rarely used in crimes even before the ban.¹⁰ In other words, the federal government’s own evaluation found little measurable impact on overall gun violence, and likewise Minnesota’s own data reflects the same usage pattern.

Rather than reducing violence, these bills would have unintended consequences of redirecting law enforcement and legal resources toward enforcing compliance offenses against otherwise law-abiding gun owners. Critically, this has real potential to divert attention away from successful, evidence-based interventions that have a real impact on crime: community violence prevention, high-risk area policing, mental health checks, and, as Saint Paul has done very successfully, increasing the solve rates of non-fatal shootings which has resulted in a massive homicide drop.¹¹

Administrative and Ongoing Fiscal Burden for the State

The practical implementation of these bills would be both complex and expensive. HF 3402 requires owners to destroy, surrender, or remove existing magazines without compensation, which represents a non-trivial amount of private property (estimated valuation at \$250 to \$350 million). HF 3433 imposes certification requirements, use restrictions, and home storage inspections that would require numerous new BCA employees, new IT infrastructure to track hundreds of thousands of firearms in a highly secure fashion, and all the various services (billing, public-facing support, etc.) that are required in such programs. All this while also potentially diverting local law enforcement from their core duties and toward compliance inspections and enforcement.

Based on numerous experiences in states with comparable registry systems, implementation would likely involve several million dollars in startup costs alongside substantial ongoing annual expenses, often blowing far past initial budget expectations.¹² Finally, it should be noted that compliance has also proven elusive despite similar laws in various other states (NY, IL, CT and more) nationwide.^{13, 14, 15}

Constitutional Issues and Legal Exposure for the State

These measures raise significant civil liberties concerns, including de facto warrantless home searches to verify storage compliance, and potential conflicts with Article I, Section 13 of the Minnesota Constitution, which protects against the taking or damaging of private property without just compensation. They also may face substantial scrutiny under the U.S. Supreme Court’s framework established in *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen*, which requires modern firearm regulations to be grounded in the nation’s historical tradition of firearm regulation. Federal courts have already applied this standard in numerous recent cases. For example, in *Renna v. Bonta*, a federal court enjoined portions of California’s handgun roster, noting that the Second Amendment protects arms “in common use,”¹⁶ a category that courts have frequently recognized as encompassing widely owned semiautomatic rifles such as AR-15–style platforms.¹⁷

Related litigation over magazine capacity limits further illustrates the legal uncertainty. In *Duncan v. Bonta*, the district court applied both *Heller’s* “common use” principle and *Bruen’s* historical-tradition test to strike down California’s ban on magazines over ten rounds, reasoning that such magazines are owned by millions of law-abiding citizens for lawful purposes, including self-defense, and that there is little historical tradition of regulating ammunition capacity.¹⁸ Although that ruling was later reversed by the Ninth Circuit sitting en banc, the litigation remains ongoing and may ultimately be subject to review by the U.S. Supreme Court. All of these cases underscore the continued legal uncertainty and how such measures generate prolonged and costly legal expenses.

The fiscal exposure from litigation is also substantial. California must allocate over \$20 million annually for firearm-related legal defense efforts.¹⁹ Oregon’s Measure 114, when preliminarily enjoined, required the state to pay nearly \$200,000 in plaintiff fees (though stayed and still under appeal).²⁰ California likewise had spent \$2.6 million and hired 27 employees attempting to fix assault weapon registration issues stemming from a single decision, plus the state paid out over \$150,000 in additional fee awards for that case.²¹ Minnesota too could realistically face \$5–10 million or more in direct legal costs over years of appeals, potentially doubled or tripled if fee-shifting applies under 42 U.S.C.

§1988. These financial resources – and the Attorney General’s office capacity – would be better directed toward prosecuting violent offenders, combating opioid trafficking, and other public safety priorities with clear, measurable returns.

A More Effective Path Forward

The goals behind HF 3433 and HF 3402 are understandable. But the evidence strongly suggests these bills will not materially reduce homicides or overall gun violence, while still imposing significant burdens on hundreds of thousands of law-abiding Minnesotans and exposing the state to years of costly litigation as well as substantial administrative costs.

I respectfully urge the committee to instead direct its energy and resources toward approaches with demonstrated results: expanding mental health and crisis intervention programs, investing in community violence intervention in high-risk areas, and particularly ensuring law enforcement has the resources and bandwidth to investigate and clear non-fatal shootings whenever they occur across the state.

Specifically, I would ask the committee to request a formal fiscal note and constitutional analysis on both bills before any further action, and to hold a hearing that includes testimony from both constituents and experts in the subject matter from all sides of the issue.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael Shepard
West Saint Paul, MN 55118

Sources

1 – Minnesota Gun Ownership – <https://mspmag.com/arts-and-culture/guns-in-minnesota/>

2 – National AR-15 Ownership – <https://www.nssf.org/articles/is-media-purposefully-underreporting-how-many-americans-own-modern-sporting-rifles/>

3 – NSSF Industry Magazine Estimates – <https://nssfresearch.s3.amazonaws.com/Detachable-Magazine-NSSFReport.pdf>

4 – Minneapolis Crime Statistics (Jan 2026) – <https://www.kare11.com/article/news/local/new-data-shows-murder-was-down-in-minneapolis-last-year/89-11233c39-a898-4809-9300-983c6e62be33>

5 – Minnesota Crime Statistics – <https://www.axios.com/local/twin-cities/2026/01/12/homicides-fall-sharply-saint-paul-minneapolis>

6 – Minnesota BCA 2024 Uniform Crime Report – <https://dps.mn.gov/news/bca/bca-releases-2024-uniform-crime-report>

7 – FBI Crime Statistics – <https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/statistical-briefing-book/data-analysis-tools/ezashr>

8 – MN Gun Crime by Weapon Type – <https://www.kttc.com/2025/09/02/digging-deeper-minnesota-gun-violence-by-types-firearms/>

9 – MN Dept. of Health Violent Death Reporting – <https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/injury/data/mnvdrs.html>

10 – DOJ/NIJ Assault Weapons Ban Assessment – <https://www.ojp.gov/library/publications/updated-assessment-federal-assault-weapons-ban-impacts-gun-markets-and-gun>

11 – Saint Paul Solved Shootings - <https://www.mprnews.org/story/2025/10/10/st-paul-solved-more-crimes-had-dramatically-fewer-homicides-in-2025>

12 – CA LAO Firearm Tracking Expenses – <https://lao.ca.gov/Publications/Report/5118>

13 – NY Low Compliance – <https://hudsonvalleyone.com/2016/07/07/massive-noncompliance-with-safe-act/>

14 – IL Low Compliance - <https://www.npr.org/2024/01/15/1224815782/illinois-has-banned-assault-weapons-but-many-residents-arent-complying>

15 – CT Low Compliance - <https://www.courant.com/2014/02/10/dan-haar-untold-thousands-flout-gun-registration-law-2/>

16 – Renna v. Bonta – https://assets.nationbuilder.com/firearmspolicycoalition/pages/5827/attachments/original/1680557157/Renna_v_Bonta_81_Opinion.pdf

17 – AR-15 Most Popular Gun in US - <https://www.npr.org/2023/04/20/1171027638/how-the-ar-15-became-the-best-selling-rifle-in-the-u-s>

18 – Duncan v Bonta – https://assets.nationbuilder.com/csbvtfsc/pages/1/attachments/original/1698000999/Duncan_v_Bonta_20230922_Mag_Ban.pdf?1698000999

19 – California DOJ Firearm Enforcement Expenses – <https://lao.ca.gov/Publications/Report/5118>

20 – Oregon BM 114 Decision – https://statecourtreport.org/sites/default/files/2025-10/court_of_appeals_of_oregon-opinion.pdf

21 – CA Assault Weapon Registry Costs – <https://www.smdp.com/california-to-set-new-window-for-assault-weapon-registration/>

Dear Chair and Members of the House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee,

My name is Michael Stinson, and I am a resident of Coon Rapids, Minnesota. I am writing to strongly oppose HF 3433 (banning possession of semiautomatic military-style assault weapons) and HF 3402 (banning possession of large-capacity ammunition magazines). These bills represent sweeping restrictions on the rights of law-abiding Minnesotans and would criminalize ownership of firearms and accessories that are in common use for lawful purposes, including self-defense, hunting, sport shooting, and protection against tyranny.

HF 3433 expands the definition of "semiautomatic military-style assault weapon" to cover most semiautomatic rifles with detachable magazines, along with many pistols and some shotguns that feature common attributes like pistol grips, adjustable stocks, or flash suppressors. It imposes a near-total ban on new transfers, sales, and possession, with limited grandfathering for current owners only—no transfers allowed, mandatory registration by May 1, 2027, government-mandated "safe storage" requirements (including potential warrant-less home inspections), and prohibitions on using these firearms for hunting. This would affect millions of lawfully owned firearms that are not machine guns or military select-fire weapons but everyday semiautomatic rifles like the AR-15 platform, which the U.S. Supreme Court in *District of Columbia v. Heller* (2008) and *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen* (2022) recognized as in "common use" for lawful purposes and protected under the Second Amendment.

These firearms are not disproportionately used in crimes; FBI data consistently shows that rifles of all types account for a tiny fraction of homicides compared to handguns or other means. Banning them would not meaningfully reduce violence but would disarm responsible citizens while burdening them with registration, storage mandates, and restrictions on use—effectively a *de facto* confiscation scheme over time.

HF 3402 bans possession of any "large-capacity magazine" capable of holding more than 10 rounds (including parts or kits that could assemble one), with no grandfathering for current owners. Lawful owners would have until July 1, 2027, to surrender, destroy, permanently modify, or remove such magazines from the state—or face felony penalties (up to 5 years in prison and \$25,000 fines). This targets the vast majority of standard magazines for rifles and many pistols, which are essential for lawful activities like competitive shooting, hunting (where

follow-up shots may be needed), and self-defense (especially against multiple threats). Magazines over 10 rounds are not "unusual" or "dangerous"—they are standard equipment owned by millions nationwide and in Minnesota.

Both bills fail the Bruen test, which requires firearm regulations to be consistent with the nation's historical tradition of firearm regulation. There is no analogous historical precedent for banning commonly owned semiautomatic firearms or standard-capacity magazines. Similar bans in other states have been struck down or enjoined on Second Amendment grounds, and these proposals would likely face the same fate—wasting taxpayer resources on litigation while providing no public safety benefit.

Criminals do not comply with such laws; they would continue to obtain prohibited items illegally. These bills would only burden law-abiding citizens, reduce options for self-defense, and infringe on the Second Amendment which is a secured and other constitutional rights without evidence of effectiveness, further restrictions on peaceable owners are unnecessary and counterproductive.

I urge the committee to reject HF 3433 and HF 3402 in full. Please prioritize evidence-based policies that target criminal behavior rather than law-abiding gun owners.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I am available for any questions and respectfully request that this testimony be entered into the record.

Sincerely,

Michael Stinson

Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Michal Pruchnik, and I am submitting this testimony in opposition to HF3433, which would broadly ban commonly owned semi-automatic rifles, and HR3402, which would ban magazines based on round count.

I speak from experience — not ideology. I am an avid firearms enthusiast, a lifelong hunter, a DNR-licensed Hunter Safety Education instructor, a former Federal Firearms License holder, and a mental health advocate. I care deeply about the safety of Minnesota's communities and the effectiveness of our public policy, and I oppose these bills because they are broad, blunt instruments that would burden responsible citizens without making our communities measurably safer.

1. These Bills Punish Responsible Owners, Not Criminals

Law-abiding Minnesotans who hunt, compete, and responsibly own firearms already operate within a robust regulatory framework. Hunters and sportsmen regularly undergo:

- Mandatory safety education and certification
- Background checks for many acquisitions
- Storage best practices taught through state-approved programs
- Voluntary compliance with additional protections

A magazine ban and a semi-auto rifle ban would further restrict these lawful citizens based on arbitrary features — not on documented risk or behavior.

Criminals do not obey magazine limits or statutory definitions of firearms. They obtain weapons illegally. Policies that restrict lawful ownership do nothing to meaningfully deter criminal misuse.

2. Safety Comes From Training — And I Teach That Every Day

As a Minnesota DNR Hunter Safety Education instructor, I see firsthand how knowledge and training reduce accidents and save lives. Minnesota's hunter education programs have led to dramatic reductions in unintentional shootings over decades.

The most effective public safety measures are education, culture, and community accountability, not feature-based prohibitions that affect millions of law-abiding citizens.

3. Mental Health Must Be Addressed — But Not with Broad Bans

As a mental health advocate, I am committed to reducing violence, including through improved access to treatment and crisis services.

However:

- Most people living with mental health conditions are not dangerous.
- Broad firearm prohibitions stigmatize treatment.
- Policies targeting diagnoses rather than specific risk factors and behaviors miss the real drivers of violence.

If the legislature truly wants to reduce violence, we should focus on expanding mental health services, crisis intervention, and community-based prevention — not enacting broad bans that have no clear link to reducing homicides or mass violence.

4. Magazine Capacity and Rifle Design Are Not the Problems

The bills propose:

- Banning commonly owned semi-automatic rifles used for hunting, sport, and self-defense
- Restricting magazines based on arbitrary round counts

But data does not support the notion that these features alone meaningfully drive most violent crime. In Minnesota and nationwide, the vast majority of gun violence involves handguns obtained illegally and used in circumstances unrelated to hunting or sport shooting.

Instead of banning tools, we should be:

- Strengthening enforcement of existing laws
- Prosecuting violent offenders
- Supporting safe storage practices statewide
- Funding community violence prevention programs

These approaches reduce harm without penalizing millions of law-abiding Minnesotans.

5. Constitutional Rights and Practical Consequences Matter

Minnesota has a strong tradition of hunting, sport shooting, and responsible firearm ownership. Many Minnesotans rely on semi-automatic rifles and standard-capacity magazines for legitimate purposes, including:

- Hunting game
- Competitive shooting
- Personal and home defense

Restrictions based on cosmetic features or arbitrary capacity limits would infringe on Second Amendment

protections and disrupt lawful activities without clear evidence of public safety benefit.

In Closing

I urge you to oppose HF3433 and HR3402 because:

- ✓ They burden responsible, trained firearm owners
- ✓ They are not targeted at criminal misuse
- ✓ They distract from real solutions — education, enforcement, mental health, and prevention
- ✓ They infringe on well-established rights without clear evidence of public safety benefit

Public safety is not advanced through punitive measures against law-abiding citizens. If we want safer communities, let's invest in smart, data-driven solutions that support both safety and rights.

Thank you for your time and consideration

submitted via email to: Ellen.McDaniel@house.mn.gov
February 23, 2026

Representative McDaniel,

I write in strong opposition to the misguided and unconstitutional bills HF 3433 and HF 3402.

There is absolutely no way I, nor other democrats/progressives/independents I know, will disarm ourselves. To ask this of us, and to make us felons if we do not, is absolutely reprehensible.

I have held a carry permit for 15 years. I have been through permit training 4 times. I know from personal experience that a significant number of women and minorities own and use the very types of firearms and magazines you seek to outlaw. In my last class (less than a month ago), we all briefly introduced ourselves and why we were there. A significant majority of the students in that class were choosing to exercise their 2A recognized and protected rights due to the world we live in today as well as the very real threats we face in the near and mid term future.

Semi-auto rifles and standard capacity magazines are not the problems we face. They are the tools we need to protect ourselves.

The party needs to wake the fuck up, if you'll pardon my bluntness, and stop trying to make the 2A a wedge issue. Unless, of course, your goal is simply to raise money, virtue signal, and ensure people who might otherwise support democrats vote republican or just stay home.

And I will note that I'm absolutely opposed to pretending that grandfather clauses somehow make it acceptable. I'd no more accept it when it comes to 2A rights than I would if you told me that a complete ban on abortions is OK as long as it only applies to women who get pregnant tomorrow, and not those currently pregnant.

Sincerely,
Mike Paulsen

2/22/2026

I'm writing this letter in opposition to gun control bills HF 3402 and HF 3433. It has been determined by myself and my peers that the bans and restrictions set forth in these bills will do nothing but impede on the constitutional rights of law abiding citizens of this great state. You and I both know the criminal element will not abide by these laws in the least. Rather than stripping good citizens of their 2nd amendment rights and creating millions of criminals overnight, why don't you put your time and effort into enforcing the laws we already have and hold criminals accountable for their actions instead of the revolving door justice system we currently have. How about focusing this energy with democrats and republicans working together to aggressively prosecute the individuals responsible for the 9 BILLION dollars worth of fraud on the Minnesota taxpayer.

Thank You
Mike Stearns

Hi,

I live in Minneapolis, and I am writing today to oppose HF 3433 and HF 3402.

The last few months have shown that the federal government is more than willing to send dangerous, barely trained, and heavily armed thugs into our communities to kidnap, terrorize, and murder our neighbors. While thankfully the number of federal agents in Minnesota has been reduced for the moment, they could decide at any time to escalate beyond the horrors they have already committed. In these dangerous times, it is vitally important that Minnesotans continue to have the right to obtain and possess semi-automatic firearms to defend themselves.

As someone who lawfully owns two semi-automatic firearms, HF 3402 would ban every single magazine I own, despite them being the standard capacity magazine that comes with each firearm. If HF 3433 is passed, in order to keep a firearm that I already legally own, I would need to pay an unknown amount of money for a certificate, and submit to law enforcement searching my home whenever they want without a warrant, violating my 4th amendment rights. This is unacceptable. For the safety of all Minnesotans, HF 3433 and HF 3402 can not be allowed to become law.



Mitchell Carruthers <sirglidesalot@gmail.com>

HF 3433, HF 3402 gun and magazine ban

Mitchell Carruthers <sirglidesalot@gmail.com>

Sat, Feb 21, 2026 at 4:12 PM

Draft To: Ellen.McDaniel@house.mn.gov

Hello,

I am writing to you today over great concern about these bills.

- HF 3433: A ban on the possession of most semi-automatic rifles
- HF 3402: A total ban on the possession of magazines holding more than ten rounds

These bans will make hundreds of thousands of Minnesotans felons and criminals in the eye of Minnesota law for having the effective ability to defend themselves and their families. Furthermore, I am concerned this will needlessly create dangerous situations for citizens upholding their 2nd amendment rights and for LEOs tasked with enforcing unconstitutional state laws.

We're in a time where many people are realizing the importance of our 2nd amendment rights. I couldn't think of a worse time for Democrats to push for a gun ban and magazine limit. It makes it very difficult to vote for either party now as it seems we have a tyrannical government coming at us from all sides.

Please take the threat we face from the current and future administrations seriously and stop these unconstitutional bills from passing. Disarming the people and only allowing them inadequate arms gives an unacceptable amount of power to the government over the people.

I'll leave you with one example of something that happened not too long ago.

Jews in Nazi-controlled Europe generally did not have legal access to guns, as the regime systematically disarmed them through laws starting in 1933 and a formal ban in November 1938. While some Jews obtained weapons through smuggling or partisan groups for resistance, most were defenseless.

Thank you for listening to my testimony,
Mitchell Carruthers



Committee on Public Safety Finance and Policy
Minnesota House of Representatives
Saint Paul, Minnesota

February 23, 2026

Re: Opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402

Chairs and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Minnesota Gun Owners Caucus, the state's largest grassroots Second Amendment organization representing thousands of law-abiding firearm owners across Minnesota, we respectfully submit this letter in strong opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402.

These bills do not merely regulate firearms. They ban some of the most commonly owned firearms and magazines in the United States. They then allow citizens to beg the government for permission to retain lawfully acquired property — subject to warrantless home inspections, uncapped fees, and felony penalties for noncompliance.

These measures would convert peaceful Minnesotans into felons for possession of mainstream, commonly owned firearms and magazines.

HF 3433 Imposes a Ban and Conditions Property Rights on Warrantless Home Entry

HF 3433 prohibits the future sale and transfer of commonly owned semiautomatic rifles based on cosmetic features. For current owners, the bill provides only one path: seek government permission to retain existing arms protected under the Second Amendment.

That approval is conditioned on payment of a government-imposed fee for which no statutory maximum is specified. It is further conditioned on a citizen's submission to warrantless inspections of the citizen's home to verify storage compliance.

The bill does not clearly limit the frequency or scope of such inspections.

This requirement is deeply troubling.

Law-abiding citizens who have committed no crime should not be forced to allow law enforcement entry into their homes without probable cause or a warrant simply to preserve possession of lawfully acquired property. Conditioning the exercise of a constitutional right on surrendering Fourth Amendment protections raises serious constitutional concerns.



Failure to comply is not a civil infraction. It is a felony offense punishable by imprisonment.

HF 3402 Criminalizes Possession of Standard Magazines

HF 3402 bans possession of magazines capable of holding more than ten rounds, even though such magazines are factory standard for many of the most popular handguns and rifles in circulation today.

No violent act must occur. No misuse must take place. Mere possession alone becomes a felony.

Millions of Americans — and hundreds of thousands of Minnesotans — lawfully own semiautomatic rifles such as the AR-15 platform and standard-capacity magazines. These are not unusual or exotic weapons. They are among the most common firearms and components owned in the country.

These bills target ordinary citizens, not violent criminals.

Supreme Court Precedent Prohibits These Bans

The constitutional framework governing these bills is not unsettled.

In *District of Columbia v. Heller*, the United States Supreme Court held that the Second Amendment protects arms “in common use” for lawful purposes such as self-defense and that categorical bans on such arms are unconstitutional.

In *McDonald v. City of Chicago*, the Court confirmed that this protection applies fully to the states.

Most recently, in *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen*, the Court rejected interest-balancing approaches and held that when the Second Amendment’s text covers the conduct at issue, the government must demonstrate that the regulation is consistent with the Nation’s historical tradition of firearm regulation.

There is no historical tradition of banning commonly possessed firearms. There is no historical tradition of prohibiting standard ammunition feeding devices. There is no historical tradition of conditioning firearm possession on warrantless home inspections.

Under controlling precedent, categorical bans on arms in common use cannot stand.



Law Enforcement Exemptions Disturb the Constitutional Balance

Both HF 3433 and HF 3402 exempt law enforcement and government agents from the prohibitions imposed on ordinary citizens.

The Second Amendment was not adopted as a sporting regulation. It exists in part to preserve a structural balance between the people and the state.

Reserving commonly possessed arms for government agents while denying them to law-abiding citizens undermines that constitutional structure.

Litigation Will Follow

The Minnesota Gun Owners Caucus has successfully challenged unconstitutional firearm restrictions before.

In **Worth v. Jacobson**, the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit struck down Minnesota's age-based restriction on permits to carry under the Supreme Court's Bruen framework. The Supreme Court declined review, and Minnesota now issues permits consistent with the Constitution.

We have also defended Minnesotans' rights in:

- **Minnesota Gun Owners Caucus v. City of Saint Paul**, challenging improper municipal firearm regulation; and
- **Minnesota Gun Owners Caucus v. Walz**, challenging Minnesota's prohibition on firearm components under the Supreme Court's text-and-history standard.

If HF 3433 or HF 3402 is enacted, litigation will follow promptly. Given the clarity of Supreme Court precedent, preliminary injunctive relief is likely. Minnesota taxpayers will bear the cost of defending laws that directly conflict with binding constitutional authority.



Conclusion

HF 3433 and HF 3402:

- Ban arms and components in common use.
- Impose warrantless home inspection requirements.
- Condition constitutional rights on government permission and uncapped fees.
- Convert ordinary possession into felony conduct.
- Conflict directly with binding United States Supreme Court precedent.

Public safety is a serious responsibility. Expanding felony law to punish peaceful possession of mainstream property does not meaningfully address violent offenders. It expands government authority while eroding constitutional protections.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge you to vote NO on HF 3433 and HF 3402.

Sincerely,

Bryan Strawser
Chair

Anna Leamy
Director, Government Relations & Advocacy



HF 3402 & HF 3433 Analysis

Executive Summary

HF 3402 and HF 3433 are unlikely to produce the public-safety outcomes their proponents promise. Minnesota’s own crime data show that rifles account for a very small share of homicide weapons, while broader violent and property crime trends declined before, during, and long after the 1994 federal ban. The leading federal evaluation could not attribute measurable reductions in overall gun violence to that ban, and systematic reviews continue to rate the homicide evidence as inconclusive.

At the same time, both bills impose sweeping felony prohibitions, forced-disposition requirements, and inspection-conditioned certification systems that present substantial constitutional and administrative risk. A more durable and evidence-aligned approach would prioritize targeted interventions; school threat assessment, crisis response capacity, focused deterrence, and improved enforcement against violent offenders, that directly address the behaviors and circumstances driving harm in Minnesota. Public safety is best advanced by policies that are empirically grounded, constitutionally sound, and tailored to the actual patterns of violence reflected in Minnesota’s own data.

- HF 3402 would create a statewide felony ban on possession of “large-capacity magazines” (>10 rounds) with a forced-disposition deadline.
- HF 3433 would ban possession/transfer of defined “semiautomatic military-style assault weapons,” while creating a limited certification system for some current owners that includes storage rules and an inspection condition.
- In the FBI’s active-shooter dataset, handguns appear more often than rifles; rifles are not the predominant firearm category in that dataset.
- Minnesota homicide weapon data show rifles are rare. In the last three published BCA UCR reports, “Rifle” appears 2 times (2022), 5 times (2023), and 3 times (2024) statewide, compared to dozens of “Handgun” entries each year.^{29 35 36}
- In Minnesota, firearms are not the leading cause of death for ages 1–17; for 2024, motor-vehicle traffic deaths (35) exceeded firearm deaths (24).²⁴
- The leading federal evaluation (NIJ) could not clearly attribute the nation’s gun-violence decline to the 1994 ban and cautioned any measurable effects were likely small; RAND’s systematic review rates the homicide evidence as inconclusive. FBI UCR and BJS trend data show crime declines began before the ban and continued for years after it expired.^{6 13 30 32}
- Evidence-supported violence-reduction options exist with clearer prevention mechanisms than broad firearm- and magazine-design bans—especially for school safety (threat assessment/reporting) and crisis response.^{21 27 28}
- Both bills are likely to face immediate constitutional challenges under the Supreme Court’s modern Second Amendment framework (Heller/Bruen). HF 3433 also raises Fourth Amendment issues by conditioning possession on home-inspection consent, and both bills’ forced-disposition provisions invite Takings Clause claims.^{8 9 14 15 16}



I. Bill Summaries

A. HF 3402 (Large-Capacity Magazines) ¹

- HF 3402 adds a new statutory definition of “large-capacity magazine” and creates a broad criminal prohibition on manufacture, importation, sale/transfer, and possession.
- The definition is capacity-based (more than 10 rounds) and includes “conversion kit” and “combination of parts” language.
- The bill includes limited exceptions (e.g., permanently altered devices, certain .22 tubular devices, and certain lever-action tubular magazines).
- HF 3402 includes a mandatory disposition requirement (surrender, sale/transfer, permanent alteration, or removal from Minnesota) by the statutory deadline, with felony penalties for violations.
- Key dates: HF 3402’s definition section is effective July 1, 2026, and persons who possessed covered magazines before July 1, 2026 must complete disposition by July 1, 2027.

B. HF 3433 (Semiautomatic “Military-Style Assault Weapons” + Certification/Inspection) ²

- HF 3433 defines “semiautomatic military-style assault weapon” using a combination of (1) feature tests tied to detachable magazines and (2) lists of enumerated models/types.
- The bill creates a broad ban on possession, transfer, and sale of defined weapons, paired with a limited government certification pathway for certain current possessors.
- The certification pathway includes storage requirements, renewals, unlimited fees, and an express consent-to-inspection condition that expands litigation risk beyond the core Second Amendment question.

II. Annunciation Shooting as Legislative Impetus

Supporters cite the August 27, 2025 shooting at the Church of the Annunciation in Minneapolis as the principal motivating event for HF 3402 and HF 3433. Any legislative response should begin by acknowledging the victims and community trauma, and then asking a hard question: *What specific prevention mechanism does a proposal use to stop the next attack?*

Public reporting and official updates indicate the assailant possessed multiple firearms during the attack; two handguns, one rifle, and one shotgun, and fired at least the rifle and shotgun. City updates report “116 rifle casings, three shotgun shell casings and one live pistol round” were recovered, and surveillance “appears to confirm that the shooter did not enter the church.” ³ A later court filing described in press coverage cited a video “showing a rifle, a shotgun, a semiautomatic handgun and a revolver.” ³⁸

Those facts matter. When an attacker brings (or can access) multiple firearm types—including handguns and a shotgun—policy that targets only one “style” of firearm (or a single design feature) does not address the broader risk of harm or the potential for substitution. **The Annunciation incident is a warning about access, intent, and behavioral warnings—not just hardware.** ^{3 38}



Legislative analysis should accurately test whether statewide felony bans and inspection-conditioned certification are:

- (a) empirically supported, and
- (b) narrowly matched to prevention mechanisms.

School-shooting-specific datasets provide additional context that complicates attempts to generalize from a single high-profile incident to a statewide ban on broad categories of semiautomatic firearms.

- GAO’s review of 318 K-12 school shootings (school years 2009-10 through 2018-19) found that shootings more often occurred outside the school building than inside (about 60% outside).¹⁹
- In the same GAO analysis, dispute/grievance-related shootings occurred most often, while school-targeted shootings were less frequent but produced disproportionate harm (over half of fatalities and more than one-third of those wounded).¹⁹
- CDC surveillance of firearm-involved school-associated youth homicides (1994-2018) reports that handguns were the predominant firearm type in both single-victim incidents (69.0% of firearms) and multiple-victim incidents (52.5%); semi-automatic rifles were 2.3% of firearms in single-victim incidents and 14.8% in multiple-victim incidents.²⁰
- U.S. Secret Service analysis of 67 averted school-attack plots reports that most plots were detected through communications of intent (75% detected solely because of what plotters communicated), highlighting prevention leverage through reporting systems and threat-assessment intervention rather than firearm-feature bans.²¹

Relatedly, NCES cautions that school-shooting and school-violence indicators vary by definition and data source; comparisons across datasets should be made carefully.²² CDC’s school-associated homicide surveillance also notes multi-firearm incidents, underscoring that some attackers do not rely on a single weapon type.²⁰

Taken together, these findings point to prevention leverage upstream: robust reporting channels, multidisciplinary threat assessment, and rapid crisis intervention. **Those measures address the mechanism repeatedly identified in school-attack research—warning signs and communicated intent—regardless of firearm type.**^{21 23}

III. Evidence-Based Responses to Claims

Mass shootings are not mainly committed with rifles/‘assault weapons.’

“Mass shooting” is not a single standardized measurement; datasets vary by selected thresholds (e.g. killed vs. shot), whether incidents are in public places, and whether gang/domestic incidents are included. Different definitions can produce different “most common weapon” answers.

Utilizing the FBI’s objective “active shooter” definitions (four or more killed not including the perpetrator), FBI data shows handguns are used significantly more often than rifles in those incidents.⁴



Even outside mass-shooting datasets, the broader firearm-violence burden (homicides and nonfatal victimizations) is dominated by handguns. ⁵

CDC’s school-associated homicide surveillance reports that in firearm-involved school-associated youth homicides, handguns were the predominant firearm type; **semi-automatic rifles were 2.3% of firearms in single-victim incidents and 14.8% in multiple-victim incidents.** ²⁰

If the goal is to reduce gun violence generally, a policy that targets a firearm category used far less often than handguns will have limited leverage, especially when imposed as a felony possession ban. *See* Section VI for more direct, evidence-supported prevention options.

Firearms are not the leading cause of death for Minnesota children.

This talking point is often made using national aggregates and broad age bands, then applied to Minnesota without adjustment. State-specific mortality data are available and allow direct comparison of injury mechanisms for Minnesota youth.

For Minnesota residents ages 1-17 in 2024, CDC WONDER’s Underlying Cause of Death data show motor-vehicle traffic deaths exceeded firearm deaths (35 vs. 24), with corresponding crude rates of 2.8 vs. 1.9 deaths per 100,000. ²⁴

Mechanism	Code	Deaths	Population	Crude rate (per 100,000)
Motor Vehicle Traffic	GRINJ-008	35	1,237,644	2.8
Firearm	GRINJ-006	24	1,237,644	1.9
Suffocation	GRINJ-017	15	1,237,644	1.2
Poisoning	GRINJ-015	13	1,237,644	1.1
Total (selected)		87	1,237,644	7.0

A Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Violence Solutions Minnesota factsheet (citing CDC data) likewise states firearms were the fourth leading cause of death among Minnesota children and teens ages 1-17 in 2023. ²⁵

This does not minimize any firearm death. It does show that rhetoric claiming firearms are Minnesota’s leading cause of death for children is not supported by Minnesota’s own mortality counts. It also matters for policy design: in Minnesota, **most firearm deaths are suicides**, not homicides. The Minnesota Department of Health reports that **from 2018–2021, 73.1% of firearm deaths were suicide (23.6% homicide).** **Error! Bookmark not defined.** Suicide prevention requires different tools and strategies than violent-crime reduction—especially upstream interventions like crisis response capacity, voluntary safe-storage practices, and rapid pathways to care—rather than firearm-category bans aimed at criminal misuse.

Rifle (including ‘assault weapon’) homicides are common exceptionally rare in Minnesota.

If HF 3433 is justified as a response to Minnesota’s overall homicide patterns, Minnesota’s own UCR data show rifles are rarely implicated in criminal homicides compared to handguns. Across recent Minnesota UCR reports, rifles (**which includes ALL rifle platforms**) are consistently a small fraction of homicide weapons. For example: ^{29 35 36}



- 2022: 182 criminal homicide victims; “Rifle” = 2; “Handgun” = 46; [37]
- 2023: 181 criminal homicide victims; “Rifle” = 5; “Handgun” = 61; [36]
- 2024: 170 criminal homicide victims; “Rifle” = 3; “Handgun” = 60; [30]

Even if each “Rifle” entry corresponded to a distinct homicide victim, the share would be low—about 1.1% (2/182) in 2022, 2.8% (5/181) in 2023, and 1.8% (3/170) in 2024. ²⁹

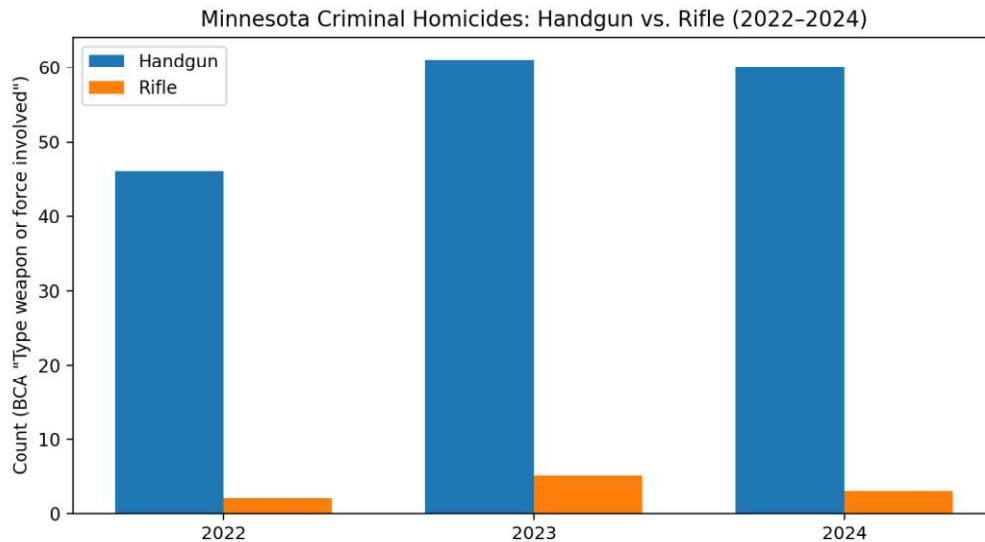


Figure 1. Minnesota criminal homicide “type weapon or force involved” tabulations: handgun vs. rifle (2022–2024). [30] [36] [37]

This does not minimize rare, high-profile incidents. It does show that a broad felony prohibition on common rifles is not aligned with the weapon profile of Minnesota’s homicides, which is dominated by handguns and unspecified firearm entries. ³⁵

If the target category accounts for a small share of homicide weapons in Minnesota’s own data, legislators should demand unusually strong causal evidence before adopting a felony possession ban, especially when enforcement costs and collateral consequences will be borne broadly.

Magazine-capacity limits and ‘assault weapon’ bans have no evidence of causal effectiveness.

A consistent challenge is causal inference: mass shootings are rare relative to overall violence, and many studies are observational with definitional and methodological limits. Legislators should not accept a claim of settled causation unless proponents can identify strong designs that isolate the law’s effect from trends and confounders.

A useful synthesis source is RAND’s Gun Policy in America project (systematic review). RAND rates the evidence for high-capacity-magazine bans as limited with respect to mass shootings and fatalities. ⁷

The 1994 Federal Assault Weapons Ban Was Not A Success: Correlation Is Not Causation.

The principal federal evaluation often invoked in these debates is the National Institute of Justice’s 2004 “Updated Assessment” of the 1994 ban. Its core bottom-line conclusion is not that the ban produced a large or clearly measurable reduction in gun violence.

The NIJ evaluation reports that any benefits from reduced use of banned assault weapons were offset by continued use of non-banned semiautomatics, and it found no discernible reduction in indicators of gun-crime lethality/injuriousness.⁶

NIJ also notes the ban’s potential impact is constrained by substitution and grandfathering: offenders can shift to non-banned firearms, and millions of pre-ban items remained in circulation.

RAND’s systematic review likewise concludes the evidence for assault-weapon bans affecting homicide is inconclusive.¹³

The National Academies’ National Research Council has also cautioned that the research and data on firearms and violent crime are too weak to settle policy debates.¹⁸

FBI UCR data show violent and property crime rates were already falling before the ban (1993→1994) and continued falling during and after it. Violent crime rate fell from 747.1 (1993) to 713.6 (1994), then from 684.5 (1995) to 463.2 (2004); property crime rate fell from 4,740.0 (1993) to 4,660.2 (1994) to 4,590.5 (1995) and 3,514.1 (2004).^{30 37}

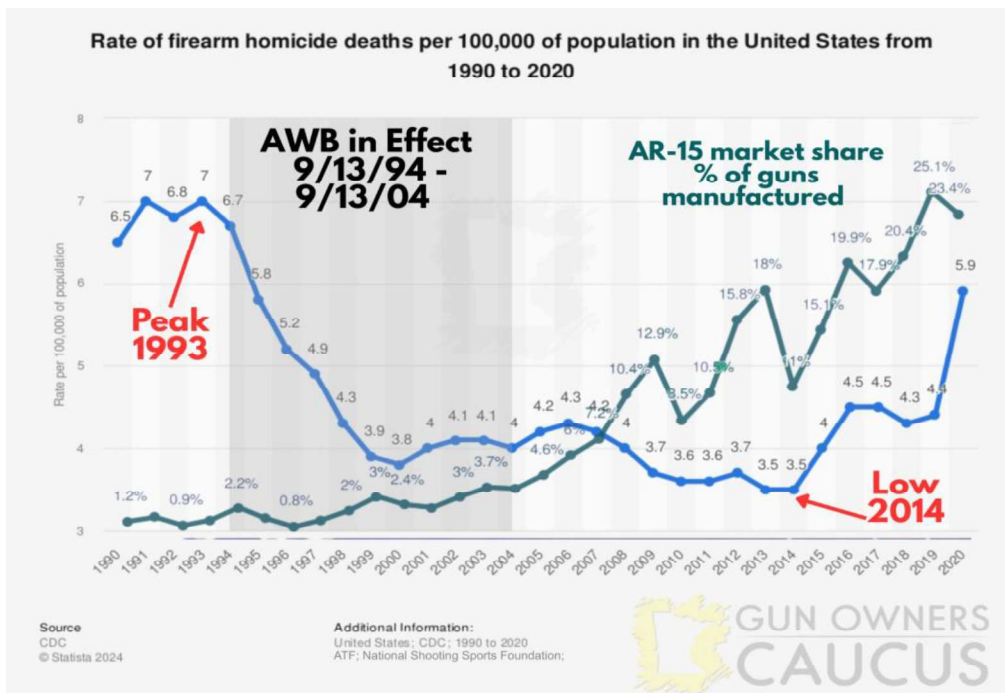


Figure 2. FBI UCR: firearm homicide rates (1990–2020), with the 1994–2004 federal ban period shaded.



After the ban sunset in 2004, those declines continued: by 2014, the violent crime rate was 365.5 per 100,000 and the property crime rate was 2,596.1 per 100,000 while sales of the previously restricted arms grew tremendously.^{30 34}

BJS summarizes CDC mortality data similarly: the firearm homicide rate (per 100,000 persons age 12 or older) declined from 8.4 in 1993 to 4.0 in 2014, and “the firearm homicide rate of 4.0 in 2014 was the lowest annual rate from 1993 to 2018.”³²

Meanwhile, the stock of rifles was not shrinking. ATF manufacturing reports show U.S. production of rifles distributed into commerce more than doubled after the ban: 1,610,923 rifles in 2007 and 4,239,335 rifles in 2016.^{33 34}

These parallel trends do not prove the 1994 ban had zero effect. They do undercut the claim that a raw decline during 1994–2004 demonstrates causation—particularly when the best federal evaluation could not detect a large, reliably measurable effect on overall gun violence.^{6 13}

FBI UCR and BJS/CDC data show the national decline in violent crime and firearm homicide began before the ban took effect in September 1994 and continued well after the ban expired in 2004.^{30 32}

A downward trend during a statute’s effective years does not establish causation; the leading federal evaluation did not find large, reliably measurable effects attributable to the ban.

IV. Constitutional Litigation Risk

A. Bruen’s Burden on the Government

Under Bruen, if the Second Amendment’s plain text covers the regulated conduct, the government bears the burden to justify the regulation by showing consistency with the Nation’s historical tradition of firearm regulation.⁸

B. Heller’s “Common Use” Principle

Heller frames the protected class of arms in terms of weapons in common lawful use and distinguishes that from historically regulable “dangerous and unusual” weapons.⁹

C. Application to HF 3402 and HF 3433

HF 3433 is a categorical felony ban on a defined class of semiautomatic firearms combined with a narrow, inspection-conditioned, discretionary certification program, after payments of an undefined fee. Litigation will likely focus on whether the covered arms are “in common use” for lawful purposes and whether the state can identify historical analogues for a broad possession ban.^{8 9}

HF 3402 similarly bans possession of magazines above 10 rounds, which are standard equipment for many commonly owned firearms. Challenges will likely argue these magazines are integral to commonly used arms and that the State lacks historical analogues for a categorical cap.



Independent of the Second Amendment claim, HF 3433's explicit consent-to-inspection condition expands litigation risk into Fourth Amendment and unconstitutional-conditions doctrines.

D. Fourth Amendment and Warrantless Entry Risk (HF 3433 Inspection Condition)

- HF 3433 conditions continued possession of a covered firearm on inspection-conditioned certification. The bill requires certified owners to agree to storage inspections by the “appropriate law enforcement agency.”
- Warrantless entry into a home is presumptively unreasonable under the Fourth Amendment; the Supreme Court has described physical home entry as the “chief evil” targeted by the Amendment.¹⁵
- Even in the regulatory context, the Supreme Court has held that administrative inspections of residences are generally “unreasonable” without a warrant absent valid consent.¹⁴
- HF 3433's structure invites litigation over whether conditioning possession of a constitutionally protected arm on consent to inspection is a valid form of consent, and whether it functions as an unconstitutional condition.
- If the State seeks to verify compliance with storage requirements, it can pursue inspection under traditional warrant procedures; HF 3433 instead attempts to pre-authorize warrantless inspections through a certification condition.

E. Takings Clause Risk (Forced Dispossession / Destruction)

- Both bills compel existing owners to permanently alter, destroy, or remove lawfully acquired property. HF 3402 requires current owners of covered magazines to surrender them for destruction, render them permanently inoperable, permanently alter them, or remove them from Minnesota by a set deadline.
- HF 3433 similarly requires non-certifying owners to surrender covered firearms for destruction, render them permanently inoperable, or remove them from the state.
- A compelled physical surrender of personal property can trigger Takings Clause scrutiny. The Supreme Court has held that the Fifth Amendment protects personal property and imposes a categorical duty to pay just compensation when the government takes it.¹⁶
- Courts also treat government-authorized physical invasions or appropriations of the right to exclude as per se takings.¹⁷
- The State will argue these measures are exercises of the police power rather than compensable takings, but the forced-surrender structure (especially surrender for destruction) increases litigation risk under both the U.S. Constitution and Minn. Const. art. I, § 13.¹⁶

F. Practical Expectation

Given national post-Bruen litigation over similar laws, Minnesota should expect immediate lawsuits, preliminary-injunction motions, expedited appeals, and significant litigation costs. Numerous cases addressing the very policies being proposed in HF 3433 and HF 3402 have been distributed to SCOTUS this term.

V. Practical and Administrative Concerns

- Scale of compliance: HF 3402 regulates magazines that are common in ordinary commerce and creates a forced-disposition timeline with felony penalties.



- Definition/enforcement complexity: HF 3433’s feature-based definition and parts/kit language create line-drawing and proof problems.
- Deadline clarity: HF 3433’s current-owner timelines (including January 1, 2027 and May 1, 2027) may create compliance ambiguity and due-process concerns unless clarified.
- Administrative structure: HF 3433 requires a certification, renewal, and inspection system that must be built and enforced statewide.
- Resource allocation: enforcement directed at broad possession bans can divert resources from targeted investigations of violent offenders and trafficking.

VI. Violence-Reduction Options More Directly Targeted to Harm

- School-safety threat assessment and reporting systems paired with intervention protocols and due-process protections. ^{19 20 23}
- Behavioral-health crisis response and suicide-prevention capacity (including mobile crisis teams and linkage to ongoing care). ²⁸
- Focused deterrence / group-violence intervention programs aimed at high-risk repeat violent offenders and networks (systematic reviews report overall crime reductions). ²⁷
- Straw-purchase and trafficking enforcement support, including tracing capacity and prosecution resources.
- Safe-storage incentives and theft-prevention measures that reduce unauthorized access without conditioning ordinary possession on home inspections.
- Improved speed and completeness of disqualifying records reporting to NICS (where applicable).

A. School Safety: Threat Assessment, Reporting, and Intervention

Federal school-violence prevention research emphasizes early identification, reporting, and intervention rather than relying on firearm-design bans as a primary prevention tool. The Secret Service’s analysis of 67 averted school-attack plots found that most plots were detected through communications of intent, highlighting the preventive value of reporting systems and multidisciplinary threat-assessment response. ²¹

GAO’s review of K-12 shootings similarly indicates that many incidents occur outside school buildings and often arise from disputes or grievances. These patterns point toward layered prevention (people, process, and place): supervision and environmental design for outdoor areas, conflict-resolution capacity, and rapid intervention when warning signs appear. ¹⁹

CDC’s School-Associated Violent Death Study also reports that firearms used in school-associated homicides and suicides most commonly come from the perpetrator’s home or from friends or relatives. That finding supports policies that strengthen lawful adult storage practices and encourage earlier help-seeking and reporting when warning signs are present. ²³

B. Crisis Response and Suicide Prevention

Public safety gains are not limited to criminal-law changes. Behavioral-health crisis capacity can reduce harm by meeting people at the point of crisis and connecting them to care. SAMHSA summarizes that the main



outcome objective of mobile crisis teams is to reduce psychiatric hospitalizations, and its review identifies empirical studies suggesting mobile crisis services can divert people in crisis from hospitalization and improve linkage to outpatient services.²⁸

In the school context, crisis response capacity complements threat assessment: when peers, families, or staff report concerning communications, communities need a reliable, rapid-response pathway that can assess risk and connect individuals to appropriate services.²¹

C. Focused Deterrence and Group Violence Intervention

For serious violence concentrated among a relatively small number of high-risk people and networks, broad firearm-design bans are poorly tailored. A Campbell Collaboration systematic review of focused deterrence strategies reports that the available evidence suggests an overall reduction in crime when focused deterrence strategies are used and found no significant displacement effects in surrounding areas.²⁷

These findings support a practical policy direction: prioritize interventions that focus enforcement and services on repeat violent offenders and groups driving a disproportionate share of shootings, while maintaining due process and measurable performance evaluation.

D. Legislative Action Should Prioritize Measurable Safety Outcomes Over Political Posturing

Opposition to HF 3402 and HF 3433 is not opposition to public safety. It is a recognition that the Legislature's duty is to enact measures that are effective, durable, and consistent with constitutional limits. A legislative agenda that invests in school threat assessment, crisis-response capacity, and targeted violence interventions offers a clearer and more defensible causal pathway to prevention than banning broad classes of commonly possessed arms and magazines. Even assuming, **unrealistically**, that a prohibition could completely eliminate the covered firearms and magazines from circulation, such a measure **would not address the broader dynamics of school safety**, including access to other firearm types, substitution effects, or the behavioral precursors consistently identified in school-violence research.

Research-backed approaches—early warning systems, multidisciplinary threat assessment teams, focused deterrence strategies, and strengthened crisis infrastructure—have demonstrated measurable impact and have attracted bipartisan support because they can be evaluated, refined, and scaled over time. Politically polarizing, constitutionally uncertain, and administratively complex proposals should not be elevated above solutions that are empirically grounded and broadly supported. Laws that are politically unviable, constitutionally dubious, and unlikely to achieve their stated outcomes risk years of litigation and diverted resources, while delaying adoption of reforms that can measurably improve the safety of Minnesota's schools and communities.

Minnesota's path forward should be practical, constitutional, data driven, and results oriented.

Rob Doar

President – Minnesota Gun Owners Law Center



¹ H.F. 3402, 94th Leg., 2026 Sess. (Minn. Feb. 17, 2026) ([as introduced](#))

² HF. 3433, 94th Leg., 2026 Sess. (Minn. Feb. 17, 2026) ([as introduced](#))

³ City of Minneapolis, “Shooting on August 27” (updates dated Aug. 27-28, 2025; last updated Sept. 2, 2025), <https://www.minneapolismn.gov/news/2025/august/active-situation-august-27/>

⁴ Federal Bureau of Investigation, Active Shooter Incidents in the United States in 2023 (2024), <https://www.fbi.gov/file-repository/active-shooter-incidents-in-the-us-2023-042624.pdf/view>

⁵ Jennifer L. Truman & Michael Planty, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Firearm Violence, 1993-2011 (NCJ 241730, May 2013), <https://bjs.ojp.gov/content/pub/pdf/fv9311.pdf>

⁶ Christopher S. Koper, Daniel J. Woods & Jeffrey A. Roth, National Institute of Justice, An Updated Assessment of the Federal Assault Weapons Ban: Impacts on Gun Markets and Gun Violence, 1994-2003 (NCJ 204431, June 2004), <https://www.ojp.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/204431.pdf>

⁷ RAND Corporation, The Effects of Bans on the Sale of Assault Weapons and High-Capacity Magazines (Gun Policy in America), <https://www.rand.org/research/gun-policy/analysis/ban-assault-weapons.html>

⁸ *N.Y. State Rifle & Pistol Ass’n, Inc. v. Bruen*, 597 U.S. ___, ___ (2022) (slip op. at 15) (PDF), https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/21pdf/20-843_7j80.pdf

⁹ *District of Columbia v. Heller*, 554 U.S. 570, 627 (2008) (PDF), <https://tile.loc.gov/storage-services/service/ll/usrep/usrep554/usrep554570/usrep554570.pdf>

¹⁰ *Caetano v. Massachusetts*, 577 U.S. 411, 413 (2016) (per curiam), <https://tile.loc.gov/storage-services/service/ll/usrep/usrep577/usrep577411/usrep577411.pdf>

¹¹ National Shooting Sports Foundation, Modern Sporting Rifles (Jan. 15, 2026), <https://www.nssf.org/articles/modern-sporting-rifles/>

¹² Reuters, U.S. Supreme Court won’t review assault weapon, high-capacity magazine bans (June 2, 2025),

<https://www.reuters.com/legal/us-supreme-court-wont-review-assault-weapon-high-capacity-magazine-bans-2025-06-02/>

¹³ RAND Corporation, Effects of Assault Weapon and High-Capacity Magazine Bans on Violent Crime (Gun Policy in America) (updated Jan. 29, 2026), <https://www.rand.org/research/gun-policy/analysis/ban-assault-weapons/violent-crime.html>

¹⁴ *Camara v. Mun. Ct.*, 387 U.S. 523, 529 (1967), <https://supreme.justia.com/cases/federal/us/387/523/>

¹⁵ *Payton v. New York*, 445 U.S. 573, 585 (1980), <https://supreme.justia.com/cases/federal/us/445/573/>

¹⁶ *Horne v. Dep’t of Agric.*, 576 U.S. 351, 358 (2015), <https://supreme.justia.com/cases/federal/us/576/351/>

¹⁷ *Cedar Point Nursery v. Hassid*, 594 U.S. 139, 149 (2021), https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/20pdf/20-107_ihdj.pdf

¹⁸ National Academies (National Research Council), Data on Firearms and Violence Too Weak to Settle Policy Debates; Comprehensive Research Effort Needed (News Release) (Dec. 16, 2004), <https://www.nationalacademies.org/news/data-on-firearms-and-violence-too-weak-to-settle-policy-debates-comprehensive-research-effort-needed>

¹⁹ U.S. Government Accountability Office, K-12 Education: Characteristics of School Shootings, GAO-20-455 (July 2020), <https://www.gao.gov/assets/gao-20-455.pdf>

²⁰ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Supplementary Table. Characteristics of perpetrators and firearms used in single- (1994-2016) and multiple-victim (1994-2018) firearm-involved school-associated youth homicides -- United States, 1994-2018 (MMWR 68(3), Jan. 25, 2019), https://stacks.cdc.gov/view/cdc/61748/cdc_61748_DS1.pdf

²¹ U.S. Secret Service, National Threat Assessment Center, Averting Targeted School Violence: A U.S. Secret Service Analysis of Plots Against Schools (Mar. 2021) (PDF), <https://s3.documentcloud.org/documents/20533588/usss-averting-targeted-school-violence-2021.pdf>

²² U.S. Dep’t of Educ., Nat’l Ctr. for Educ. Stats., Indicator 8: Violent deaths at school and away from school and school shootings (updated May 2024), <https://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator/a01>

²³ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Key Findings: School-Associated Violent Death Study (updated Apr. 23, 2024), <https://www.cdc.gov/youth-violence/data-research/school-associated-violent-death-study/index.html>

²⁴ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality 2018-2024 on CDC WONDER Online Database (released 2026). Query: Underlying Cause of Death, 2018-2024, Single Race; Minnesota; ages 1-17; year 2024; grouped by Injury Mechanism & All Other Leading Causes (Firearm; Motor Vehicle Traffic; Poisoning; Suffocation). Accessed Feb. 21, 2026, <http://wonder.cdc.gov/ucd-icd10-expanded.html>

²⁵ Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Center for Gun Violence Solutions, Gun Violence in Minnesota (2023 Factsheet) (July 2025) (PDF), <https://publichealth.jhu.edu/sites/default/files/2025-07/Gun-Violence-in-Minnesota-2023-Factsheet.pdf>

²⁶ CDC WONDER, National Center for Health Statistics, Mortality Data on CDC WONDER -- Underlying Cause of Death (page last reviewed Feb. 18, 2026), <https://wonder.cdc.gov/deaths-by-underlying-cause.html>



²⁷ Campbell Collaboration, Focused deterrence strategies effects on crime (systematic review summary) (Sept. 9, 2019), <https://www.campbellcollaboration.org/review/focused-deterrence-strategies-effects-on-crime/>

²⁸ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Effectiveness, Cost-Effectiveness, and Funding Strategies for Behavioral Health Crisis Services (SMA14-4848, 2014) (PDF), <https://library.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/sma14-4848.pdf>

²⁹ Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, 2024 Uniform Crime Report to the Legislature (summary of 2024 Minnesota Crime Data Explorer information as of June 9, 2025), <https://assets.dps.mn.gov/files/bca/2024-Uniform-Crime-Report.pdf>

³⁰ Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime in the United States, Table 1: Crime in the United States by Volume and Rate per 100,000 Inhabitants, 1995–2014 (2014), <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2014/crime-in-the-u.s.-2014/tables/table-1>

³¹ Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime in the United States, 2000 (Press Release) (Oct. 23, 2001) (archived), <https://archives.fbi.gov/archives/news/pressrel/press-releases/crime-in-the-united-states-2000>

³² Bureau of Justice Statistics, Trends and Patterns in Firearm Violence, 1993–2018 (Summary) (NCJ 251663, Apr. 2022), https://bjs.ojp.gov/content/pub/pdf/tpfv9318_sum.pdf

³³ Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Annual Firearms Manufacturing and Export Report, Year 2007 (rev. May 24, 2010), <https://www.atf.gov/media/24531/download>

³⁴ Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Annual Firearms Manufacturing and Export Report, Year 2016 Final (Jan. 4, 2018), <https://www.atf.gov/media/24501/download>

³⁵ Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, 2023 Uniform Crime Report to the Legislature (summary of 2023 Minnesota Crime Data Explorer information as of May 20, 2024), <https://assets.dps.mn.gov/files/bca/2023-Minnesota-Uniform-Crime-Report.pdf>

³⁶ Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, 2022 Uniform Crime Report (summary of 2022 Minnesota Crime Data Explorer information as of May 16, 2023), <https://www.lrl.mn.gov/docs/2023/mandated/231464.pdf>

³⁷ Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime in the United States, Table 1: Crime in the United States by Volume and Rate per 100,000 Inhabitants, 1993–2012 (2012), <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/1tabledatadecoverviewpdf>

³⁸ Paul Walsh, Police: Casualty total from Annunciation mass shooting rises after new victims accounted for, Star Tribune (Oct. 7, 2025, 10:15 PM), <https://www.startribune.com/police-casualty-total-from-annunciation-mass-shooting-rises-after-new-victims-accounted-for/601487283/>

Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Mohammad Abdallah, and I am a law-abiding Minnesota resident. I am writing in strong opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402.

These bills would criminalize the possession of commonly owned firearms and standard-capacity magazines that are in widespread lawful use across Minnesota and the United States. Millions of responsible citizens own semi-automatic rifles and magazines holding more than ten rounds for lawful purposes including self-defense, sporting use, and hunting. These are not unusual or exotic items — they are standard, commonly owned firearms and accessories.

HF 3433 would effectively ban the sale, transfer, and possession of most semi-automatic rifles. HF 3402 would ban magazines over ten rounds, which are standard equipment for many of the most popular firearms in circulation today. These proposals would not target criminals — they would target ordinary citizens who follow the law.

Criminals, by definition, do not comply with firearm regulations. Passing additional bans will not deter those intent on committing violent crimes. Instead, these bills risk turning otherwise responsible citizens into felons overnight for possessing items that were lawfully purchased and widely owned.

Public safety is a serious and important issue. However, legislation must be focused on violent offenders and root causes of crime, not broad prohibitions on commonly owned property. Policies that impact constitutional rights should be narrowly tailored and evidence-based. These bills are overly broad and place unnecessary burdens on lawful gun owners without clear evidence they will reduce violent crime.

I respectfully urge you to oppose HF 3433 and HF 3402 and instead pursue solutions that target criminal behavior while preserving the rights of responsible Minnesotans.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Mohammad Abdallah
Blaine, MN

Regarding the following bills: HF 3433 - Semi-Automatic Rifle Ban and HF 3402 - Total Ban on Possession of Magazines holding more than 10 rounds

To Rep. Emma Greenman, Rep. Brad Tabke, and the other members of the Minnesota House Public Safety Committee: The proposed gun control measures being considered this week suffer from the same faults in logic and disregard for pragmatism as so many others that have been proposed throughout our history, key to these being that they will not make anyone safer nor reduce violent crime in any measurable way. This has been proven historically and repeatedly, such as by the FBI crime statistics reports that followed the decade-long Clinton-era “assault weapon ban,” which proved definitively that such measures on a *national scale* did nothing to reduce violent crime. You’ll recall the definition of insanity is doing the same thing repeatedly and expecting a different result.

But worse than this is the utter cognitive inconsistency and bad faith with which these are being put forth by the abovementioned Democratic representatives. In one breath, they rightfully cry foul of the recent federal government overreach in our state and the alarming shift toward authoritarianism by this administration. They rightfully decry the murder of Alex Pretti simply for exercising his 2nd and 1st Amendment rights. Then in the next, they foolishly attempt to enact gun control measures that would disarm our countrymen (like Alex Pretti) at a time when semi-automatics and standard-capacity magazines are the only tools that guarantee our autonomy and freedom.

I stand against these measures as a law-abiding Minnesotan gun owner and urge others on the Committee to do the same out of respect to their oath to the Constitution and the demands of their constituents.

Nate Granzow

Wright County, Minnesota

2-21-26

Ms. McDaniel,

I'm writing to express my opposition to H.F. 3402 and H.F. 3433. Both bills will significantly effect myself, my family, and numerous friends. They will make many of the firearms, and their magazines which we use for target shooting, hunting and rely on for self-defense, illegal.

We will be forced to either surrender or destroy many thousands of dollar's worth of firearms and magazines or become felons. Our hobbies will be severely impacted. And most importantly, we will be put at risk, as we will no longer have our preferred arms to defend ourselves should the unthinkable happen.

The Second Amendment is a restriction on government. Not the people. I urge everyone to oppose these bills.

Nicholas Olson

6201 Hillside Road

Edina, MN 55436

Written Testimony Against HF 3433 & 3402

My name is Nichole Swanson, and I live in Blaine MN. I am against HF 3433 & 3402. It is unfair that people can become felons overnight just for owning a possession that you may not like. Why should I get in trouble with gifts that I may have bought in the past for my family. Why should my ex-husband be a felon overnight for something that now may be in his possession. I don't understand, we have never done anything wrong, we pay our taxes, we go to church, we raised our children, I have a son-in-law in the navy.

The Second Amendment is not for self-defense or for sport. It's to fight tyranny, It's to level up the playing field between government and the people. Minneapolis saw an example of this a few months ago with ICE. Do you not remember this?? And now, you are discussing passing a law that only allows Ice Agents and police to possess these guns and magazines. Are you serious?

I think about the women in Iran and how 40,000 or more were killed (they do not have a 2nd amendment in Iran) because they are fighting for their freedom against a tyrannical government, or the people of Ukraine who are also fighting against a foreign tyrannical government. I totally believe that can happen today in America. YOU are making that happen with laws like HF 3433 and HF3402. Think about this. Think about what ICE did, think about the 2 deaths due to ICE agents.

Nichole Swanson

Subject: Opposing Firearm Bans and Proposing Real Solutions for Minnesota's Health and Safety

Dear Representatives,

My name is Nicholas Benson, and I am a resident of Eden Prairie. I am submitting this written testimony to formally urge the committee to vote NO on HF 3433 (banning semiautomatic firearms) and HF 3402 (banning standard-capacity magazines). These bills disproportionately impact law-abiding Minnesotans while failing to address the actual public health crises and systemic root causes of violence in our communities.

I ask that the committee consider the everyday realities of firearm ownership and why the platforms and magazines targeted by HF 3433 and HF 3402 are necessary for peaceable citizens:

- **Self-Defense and Factory Standards:** For many of the most popular firearms in the country—such as the AR-15 and common handguns like the Glock 19—magazines holding 15 to 30 rounds are the baseline engineering standard, not modifications. In high-stress defensive situations, accuracy drops significantly. Standard-capacity magazines ensure a defender can address multiple attackers without the dangerous need to reload under pressure. Law enforcement relies on these exact capacities for a reason, and civilians face the exact same threats.
- **Hunting and Predator Management:** In Minnesota, standard-capacity, semiautomatic rifles like the AR-15 are widely used for year-round coyote management to protect livestock and deer fawns, allowing for quick, ethical follow-up shots on fast-moving predators. Furthermore, during the Spring Light Goose Conservation Order, the government explicitly lifts capacity restrictions on shotguns, proving that higher capacities are recognized as necessary and effective tools for land management.
- **Competitive and Recreational Shooting:** Dynamic athletic events like 3-Gun and USPSA are designed entirely around 15- to 30-round capacities. Banning these components fundamentally alters safe, organized shooting sports.

Rather than pursuing legislation that restricts the Second Amendment rights of your constituents and requires the surrender or destruction of lawfully owned property, I strongly urge the legislature to focus its time and resources on actual, statistical public health crises.

According to state health data, the leading causes of death in Minnesota are overwhelmingly related to disease and health emergencies:

1. Cancer
2. Heart Disease

3. Accidents (including unintentional overdoses)

4. COVID-19 / Respiratory Illnesses

5. Stroke and Alzheimer's Disease

Addressing healthcare improvements, funding cancer research, and tackling the addiction crisis would save significantly more Minnesotan lives than banning standard firearm components.

Furthermore, if the goal of this committee is to reduce violent crime, we must shift to a proactive approach that addresses the systemic root causes of violence rather than banning the tools. I urge you to support policies that focus on:

- **Mental Health and Substance Abuse:** Expanding state-funded mental health crisis centers and long-term addiction rehabilitation facilities to intervene before individuals reach a crisis point.
- **Economic Stability:** Fostering job creation, vocational training for at-risk youth, and ensuring housing security to stabilize neighborhoods, which historically reduces local crime rates.
- **Community-Based Violence Intervention (CVI):** Funding programs that employ trained community members to de-escalate conflicts and mediate truces, treating violence as a preventable public health issue.
- **Criminal Justice Reform and Youth Development:** Fully funding after-school programs during peak hours for juvenile crime, and supporting reentry programs that help formerly incarcerated people secure employment and housing to effectively lower recidivism rates.

I expect my representatives to protect my constitutional rights while prioritizing the real, pressing healthcare and socioeconomic issues that affect our state. Please oppose HF 3433 and HF 3402.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and service to our state.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Benson

18518 Maple Leaf Dr

Eden Prairie, MN 55346

612.327.2501

nbenson@gmail.com

Dear Ellen McDaniel,

I am writing to submit my testimony against the proposed firearms legislation bring brought forth, specifically HF 3433, HF 3402, and HF 3407. As a lifelong Democratic/DFL voter and having read the proposed legislation I am very upset and disappointed that this is being brought forward. This proposed legislation unfairly punishes law-abiding gun-owners like myself and would have negative consequences for a variety of mainstream activities such as hunting and competitive shooting.

In regards to bill HF 3433 this would effectively ban the vast majority of long guns in the state that Minnesota families have had for generations. It would ban archaic weapons from World War II such as the M1 Carbine that was designed in 1941 with a detachable magazine in standard 15 or 30 round capacity with a flash suppressor, a weapon commonly brought home by veterans and passed onto their children and grandchildren. Today at least 25% of firearms manufactured in the US are based on the AR-15 style rifle which was first created 70 years ago. Guns using this pattern are extremely popular with precision target and competition shooters, landowners mitigating varmints, and hunters. As a hunter myself I have been looking forward to using my rifles for the upcoming deer season now that the legislature has removed the shotgun-only zone, however this legislation would ban such weapons. Including language that bans firearms with threaded barrels, barrel shrouds and other elements is reactionary and shows that the writers of the bill do not understand firearms design and use. This legislation would make all of my long guns illegal, would restrict my abilities to hunt and shoot competitive sports, and would force me to shoot firearms without the use of a hearing safe suppressor.

The bill HF 3402 wishes to ban all magazines larger than 10 rounds. Every handgun I have owned came standard with a magazine that has 15 or more rounds. According to a 2024 study by the National Shooting Sports Foundation approximately 74% of all magazines produced or imported into the US from 1990 to 2021 have a capacity of 11 or more rounds. Banning nearly 3/4 of all magazines due to them being the standard capacity is illogical and once again only punishes law-abiding gun-owners like myself. If there were to become illegal individuals could easily drive across state lines and walk into any gun store to purchase the normal capacity magazines with 11 or more round capacity. This bill would effectively destroy competitive shooting of which I participate in, as most participants use magazines with at least a 15-20 round capacity in order to have a competitive score. Enacting this legislation would likely cause individuals like myself to no longer participate in this fun and engaging sport.

Finally HF 3407 proposes to ban so called "ghost guns." I myself enjoy tinkering and working on a variety of machines and this includes firearms. This bill would put undo burden on non FFL holders like myself and would require individuals to take lawfully owned non-serialized firearms of any age to be serialized by an FFL. Who will pay the financial cost for this to be done? Why should a individual be forced to take in a firearm their grandparent passed down to them to be serialized by an FFL at their own cost just because it was not serialized when produced?

These proposed laws are hurtful to Minnesota gun-owners and are nonsensical in the way they are written. This legislation will punish law-abiding citizens while those who wish to commit crimes will continue to do so, because banning something does not fix the larger societal issues causing crime nor does it alleviate people's mental conditions. Focussing on the root issues for these problems is the only way to stop them from happening, banning firearms will not fix this.

Thank you,

Noah Pilugin

Good morning,

I'd like to submit written testimony in opposition to both HF3402 and HF3433.

These bills create a new class of felons amongst those of us who just came through (or are still undergoing?) a paramilitary occupation by our own Federal government...and the bills specifically EXEMPT Federal Employees like CBP and ICE.

So I ask the DFL, when you were all calling them (ICE) "Nazi thugs" and the "Gestapo" - and then these bills allow them to be the only ones armed...

What does that say?

Were you wrong in calling them names? I don't think you were because it was absolutely a politically driven paramilitary occupation...so...why do we let them keep their guns and magazines?

Further - I watched folks in my own West St Paul neighborhood form an armed guard in their apartment parking lot to dissuade ICE agents from conducting operations - they didn't have a single abduction or kidnapping by government agents after doing so...

...and you want to make THEM FELONS?

**Please read the room and the times
- these are the wrong bills at the
wrong time.**

Thank you.

**Patrick Watson
1327 Delaware Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55118**

Ellen McDaniel: DFL Committee Administrator
House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee
Minnesota House of Representatives

Subject: Strong Opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402 – Written Testimony for February 24, 2026
Hearing

Dear Ms. McDaniel,

As a concerned Minnesota resident and law-abiding gun owner, I strongly oppose House File 3433 (banning possession of many semiautomatic rifles) and House File 3402 (banning possession of magazines over 10 rounds). I request this testimony be included in the official record for the February 24, 2026, hearing.

These bills infringe on rights protected by the Second Amendment, as clarified by the U.S. Supreme Court in *District of Columbia v. Heller* (2008) and *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc. v. Bruen* (2022).

In *Heller*, the Court affirmed an individual right to possess firearms for lawful purposes like self-defense in the home, striking down a handgun ban because such arms are in common use among law-abiding citizens and qualify as the "quintessential self-defense weapon." *Bruen* reinforced this by establishing that restrictions on conduct covered by the Second Amendment's plain text must be consistent with the Nation's historical tradition of firearm regulation - no modern interest-balancing allowed. Courts must invalidate regulations lacking historical analogues.

The semiautomatic rifles targeted by HF 3433 (e.g., AR-15-style) and standard-capacity magazines over 10 rounds targeted by HF 3402 are overwhelmingly in common use today for self-defense, hunting, sport shooting, and other lawful activities—far exceeding the protected handguns in *Heller*. No founding-era or Reconstruction-era tradition supports banning such ordinary arms or accessories; historical limits targeted unusual weapons or misconduct, not everyday self-defense tools owned by millions.

HF 3402 is especially troubling because it offers no meaningful grandfathering and requires current owners to surrender magazines to law enforcement for destruction, permanently modify or alter them, or remove them from the state by July 1, 2027—without any provision for just compensation. Forcing the destruction or surrender of lawfully acquired private property without paying fair market value raises serious concerns under the Fifth Amendment's Takings Clause, which prohibits taking private property for public use without just compensation. These measures burden responsible citizens, fail to address criminal gun violence, and risk unconstitutional precedents. I urge the committee to reject HF 3433 and HF 3402.

Thank you for considering my views.

Sincerely,
Peter
Proud Minnesotan

Dear Representative McDaniel,

I'm writing to express my opposition to HF 3433, the Semi-Automatic Rifle Ban, and HF 3402, the Total Ban on Possession of Magazines Holding More Than 10 Rounds. As a lifelong Democrat and progressive, I've watched the horrors of gun violence be perpetuated through federal inaction. I am appalled by the senseless murders of Melissa and Mark Hortman and the attempted murder of your colleague John Hoffman at the hands of an individual impersonating police.

Despite this, I am among the thousands of Twin Cities and Minnesota progressives who have applied for their Permit to Carry in recent weeks because of the federal occupation of our city and state. In the modern day, I believe our right to bear arms, in the spirit of the Second Amendment, is a critical component of community defense through saturation and deterrence against those who view our communities as defenseless. God willing, I will never have cause to use a firearm in self-defense, and I have no fantasies of confrontation between the people of Minnesota and the federal government. With the debate over firearms almost entirely a lost cause at the federal level in our lifetimes, we cannot afford to hamstring one of our most basic forms of community deterrence.

These bills would not have prevented any of the violence we've seen in our state. With only a state ban, malcontents would easily obtain banned items and commit acts of violence. Unfortunately, the bills are overly broad and either misunderstand the mechanical specifics of modern firearms and magazines or are intended to be so sweeping that they cause collateral expense and disarmament of legal gun owners. They are also being introduced at a time that feels excruciatingly tone deaf.

We can prevent random and targeted gun violence, but the solution is not found here. I encourage you and your colleagues in the DFL to consider the views of constituents like me who vote with the DFL and who have recently updated their positions on firearms in ways that are incongruous with this legislation.

Sincerely,

Raphael Allen

34th St., South Minneapolis

February 19, 2026

To: Minnesota State Legislators

Subject: Opposition to HF 3433 (Semi-Automatic Rifle Ban) and HF 3402 (Magazine Capacity Ban)

Dear Members of the Legislature,

I am writing to respectfully express my strong opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402. As a lifelong Minnesota resident, a business owner, and a parent, I care deeply about both public safety and the preservation of constitutional rights. I believe these bills, as proposed, would significantly restrict the rights of law-abiding citizens without adequately addressing the root causes of violent crime.

HF 3433 proposes a ban on commonly owned semi-automatic rifles. These firearms are widely used by responsible citizens for lawful purposes including self-defense, sport shooting, and hunting. A prohibition on an entire class of firearms that are in common use raises serious constitutional concerns and risks penalizing responsible gun owners rather than those who misuse firearms.

HF 3402 would prohibit possession of magazines holding more than 10 rounds. Such magazines are standard equipment for many commonly owned firearms and are owned safely and responsibly by countless Minnesotans. Criminalizing possession of legally acquired property would impose substantial burdens on citizens who have followed the law in good faith.

As a small business owner, I am also concerned about the economic and compliance burdens that sweeping prohibitions can place on local retailers and manufacturers. As a parent, I strongly support safe communities and responsible firearm ownership, but broad bans that affect compliant citizens are unlikely to deter individuals already willing to break the law.

Public safety is a priority we all share. I urge you to focus on policies that address criminal behavior, strengthen enforcement of existing laws, improve access to mental health resources, and ensure accountability for violent offenders. These approaches target the real problem without infringing on the rights of responsible Minnesotans.

I respectfully ask that you oppose HF 3433 and HF 3402 and instead pursue balanced solutions that protect both public safety and constitutional freedoms.

Thank you for your time and service to our state.

Sincerely,

Richard Hillstrom

826 Ramsey Ave.

Carver, MN 55315

Esteemed Legislators of Minn

I'm writing to express my displeasure regarding the gun control legislation which seems to be a persistent problem.

I'm beyond fed up with legislators attempting to hollow out my second amendment rights.

Guns don't kill people, people kill people. Unless legislators recognise this and begin addressing the root cause which is the mental health crisis this entire country faces nothing will be able to move us forward.

If a car drives into a crowd and commits vehicular homicides we don't call for car manufactures to stop making cars, we recognise it as a mental health issue but use a firearm and it's a gun problem, wake up people they both are inanimate objects incapable of individual thought but an auto use is a privilege, but a gun is protected by the 2nd amendment and is a right not a privilege and further is not to be infringed upon.

Paul Revere's ride one if by land two if by sea, its purpose was to warn other colonists so that they could stash the firearms and ammo so British forces couldn't take them (confiscate). Yet here we are nearly 250 years later still having the argument.

They included the 2nd amendment with the words shall not be infringed for a purpose.

Respectfully Richard Olson 56a citizen and voter

HF 3433 -

1) I oppose this bill as it doesn't allow for me to pass on my possessions to loved ones or friends, even in the event of death. This is basically stealing as I see it. No government has the right to claim that what is mine is actually theirs and can do whatever they want with my property. I believe this to be unconstitutional under the 4th Amendment.

2) I oppose this bill as it would force me to buy a certificate of ownership, cost to be applied at some later point yet to be announced. This sounds like a gun registry to me and I oppose it.

3) I oppose this bill as it somehow allows for law enforcement to enter my home, unannounced and without a warrant, to ensure I comply with "safe storage" laws not yet outlined. I believe this to be unconstitutional under the 4th amendment. Also, judging from previous legislation on this matter I foresee a storage requirement that would render my rifle unusable for home defense.

4) Our home is the only house on a dead end, long country road that connects to Hwy 10. We have no neighbors for miles to the North, West, and East and our neighbor to the South is 300 yards away through the woods. In our dead end, we've already had numerous people threaten us when asked to leave the area at 1:30am in the middle of the week. People regularly use our dead end as a bathroom or dumpster or both which illustrates the easy access anyone on the highway has to our home. We are outside of any local police jurisdiction and rely on the county for any 911 calls which typically average about 20-30 minutes. This is a vulnerability that we accepted when we bought the property, however, we have guns for home defense. If you shackle our weapons in a "safe storage" manner, we are unable to protect ourselves from a home invasion. A terrible anxiety to live with being the only house on a dead end country road that connects to a major highway.

HF 3402 -

I oppose this bill as these magazines are extraordinarily common today. This bill would leave law abiding citizens at a major disadvantage in the event of crisis. Only criminals are currently using automatic weapons and they have capacity well beyond 10 rounds. In using a legal semi-automatic rifle, lawful citizens are already underpowered in the event of a major conflict with criminals. I oppose this bill as it would make the defense of my home impossible against a criminal element encouraged by our current times.

In closing, I'm not a gun enthusiast, but I do see the practicality of being able to defend my home from unknown threats. It is a God given right to defend yourself and the government has no right to leave me defenseless against unknown and unforeseen threats. Thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns.

Good morning, Ellen McDaniels,

The MONEY!!!!

The DFL's constant attack on the rights of the citizens is ridiculous. Losing millions of our dollars in fraud apparently was not enough for you. Now you want to take away our property without just compensation and infringe on our rights as citizens.

The Second Amendment is a Constitutional Right, this right is meant for security, protection, and liberty!!!!!! What you are proposing is not only unjust and would cost individuals money, but you are attacking an item that most people use as a tool. The AR-15 with a STANDARD magazine is one of the most effective security and protection tools for a rural citizen. Rural citizens or should I say "Rocks and Cows" are on their own. They are their own animal control to protect their kids and animals from predators. They are also 30 plus minutes from Law Enforcement help.

How is the AR-15 with a STANDARD capacity magazine the most effective tool for rural citizens?

If predators come in and try to attack my Kids and animals, I can grab that tool and put in a single magazine to run out the door to handle 95% percent of predator issues. The accuracy and small diameter bullet with a modest amount of powder make this ideal for predator removal without being over the top. I could use my deer rifle, but the larger caliber and large amount of powder is excessive for taking out small predators. Using a rimfire can also be limiting against larger predators and moderate ranges. The AR-15 with the 223 round is a very effective middle ground, not to larger for smaller predators and very rarely not limiting on large predators. Does a STANDARD sized 30 round magazine help with this? Yes, when a rural citizen must run out the door to go protect kids and animals, seconds count. Needing to grab multiple smaller nonstandard round magazines or an additional box of ammo can easily be the difference between life and death. Or the other option is a rural citizen is at the back side of their property and now they don't have enough ammo to deal with multiple predators. And we can get into the argument about round counts and hits, but when law enforcement has terrible accuracy reports when in the situation, I think that answers itself. There are studies that prove this point.

Sincerely A VERY Concerned MN Citizen,
Rusty Bowden

Written Testimony in Opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402

Submitted by: Sarah Barclay

City: Oakdale, Minnesota

Date: February 20, 2026

Submitted to: House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee

My name is Sarah Barclay, and I am a constituent in Oakdale, Minnesota. I am submitting this testimony to express my firm opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402.

I have been a responsible, law-abiding gun owner for years. I store my firearms securely in my home and follow all proper safety precautions when traveling, transporting, and carrying them. I visit the range regularly to train and stay proficient. I have never posed any threat to my family, my neighbors, or my community.

Under these bills, none of that would matter. I would become a felon simply for continuing to possess the firearms and magazines I've legally owned for years. These bills would not change my character or my conduct — only my legal status.

My reasons for owning firearms go far beyond hobby or sport. As a woman who stands at 5'3" and weighs 95 pounds, a firearm is not just a possession — it is my most meaningful tool for personal safety. My concealed carry permit and the firearms I legally own allow me to defend myself against an attacker who may be far larger and stronger than I am. That is not a hypothetical concern. It is a practical, real-world reason why legal gun ownership matters deeply to women like me. These bills would strip away that protection from law-abiding citizens, while doing absolutely nothing to stop those who intend to do harm. The people committing violence in our communities aren't going to register their firearms or surrender their magazines. These bills only punish the people already following the rules.

HF 3433 and HF 3402 would also effectively criminalize the most common handguns and rifles in America — firearms that the Constitution protects. In *District of Columbia v. Heller (2008)*, the Supreme Court established the “common use” standard: a firearm that is widely owned by law-abiding citizens for lawful purposes, including self-defense, is constitutionally protected under the Second Amendment. There are an estimated two million gun owners in Minnesota, including nearly 400,000 active permit to carry holders. The firearms these bills seek to ban — semi-automatic rifles and standard-capacity handguns — are owned by a majority of them. They are, by every measure, in common use.

The Second Amendment is unambiguous: “...*the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.*” Not burdened. Not restricted for the law-abiding while criminals carry on unaffected. Not infringed.

I urge this committee to reject HF 3433 and HF 3402. These bills do not make Minnesota safer. They make law-abiding Minnesotans criminals. They disarm the most vulnerable while leaving those who would do harm entirely unaffected. And they are a direct violation of a constitutional right that the Supreme Court has affirmed repeatedly and unambiguously — a right that shall not be infringed.

I am an informed voter, and I will remember how my representatives stand on this issue when I cast my ballot. More importantly, so will the two million Minnesotans whose rights are on the line. I ask you to stand with your constituents, stand with the Constitution, and vote no.

Respectfully,



Sarah Barclay
Oakdale, Minnesota

Sarah Hauptman
Hugo, MN
February 22nd, 2026

House of Representatives
State of Minnesota
Public Safety Finance & Policy Committee
Minnesota State Capitol
St. Paul, Minnesota

Committee Co-Chairs:

Rep. Kelly Moller
Rep. Paul Novotny

Re: HF 3433 (Greenman) and HF 3402 (Tabke)

Co-Chair Novotny, Co-Chair Moller, and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony regarding HF 3433 and HF 3402. I urge the Committee to oppose both measures.

As proposals before a Public Safety Committee, these bills should be evaluated primarily on one question: will they meaningfully reduce violent crime in Minnesota? In my view, they do not. Instead, they expand felony liability for peaceful possession of commonly owned property, without requiring criminal intent, violent conduct, or demonstrated harm.

HF 3433 would prohibit possession of certain semiautomatic firearms based largely on enumerated features. HF 3402 would prohibit possession of magazines capable of holding more than ten rounds. In both cases, simple possession – rather than misuse – becomes a felony punishable by up to five years imprisonment and substantial fines.

No violent act is required. No threat is required. No harm must occur. Criminal liability attaches based solely on ownership.

That represents a significant shift away from the traditional focus of public safety policy, which is to deter and punish harmful conduct. Historically, felony penalties are reserved for behavior that causes or credibly threatens serious harm. These bills instead criminalize the continued possession of items that are widely owned by law-abiding Minnesotans and millions of Americans nationwide.

The firearms and magazines covered by these bills are not rare or exotic. Modern semiautomatic rifles such as AR-15 pattern firearms are among the most commonly sold firearms in the country. Standard-capacity magazines exceeding ten rounds are equally

common. They are routinely used for lawful purposes including training, sport shooting, and personal defense. Their prevalence alone underscores an important reality: these are mainstream items owned by ordinary citizens who have committed no crimes.

Public safety legislation should focus on behavior—particularly violent behavior. Yet these bills impose felony penalties based on mere configuration and capacity, not conduct. Possessing a piece of plastic or a spring does not make someone dangerous, yet under these bills it can be punished more harshly than felony domestic assault.

From a public safety perspective, this raises serious concerns about priorities and efficacy. Individuals intent on committing violent acts are unlikely to comply with registration mandates, capacity limits, or surrender deadlines. Those who do comply will overwhelmingly be law-abiding citizens.

When legislation primarily affects those who already obey the law, it is reasonable to question whether it meaningfully addresses violent crime.

Additionally, both bills impose severe penalties for non-violent conduct. A missed compliance deadline, possession of a magazine purchased years ago, or continued ownership of a firearm that was legal at the time of purchase could result in felony prosecution. Felony convictions carry life-altering consequences, including loss of civil rights, employment barriers, and permanent criminal records. Expanding felony liability in the absence of violent conduct risks diluting the moral authority of criminal law.

There are also enforcement realities that merit careful consideration. Possession-based prohibitions are inherently difficult to enforce uniformly across a population. There will be no systematic review of every household. Enforcement will occur incidentally—during traffic stops, search warrants, or unrelated investigations. Historically, broad possession statutes enforced in this manner tend to be applied unevenly. Communities that experience higher rates of police contact are more likely to bear the brunt of incidental enforcement. From an equal protection standpoint, that risk should not be dismissed lightly.

It is also noteworthy that both bills contain exemptions for law enforcement and government agents. If the regulated firearms and magazines are deemed uniquely dangerous, it is reasonable to ask why they remain appropriate for state actors while prohibited for civilians. If they are considered appropriate tools for defense and duty use, it is difficult to argue that their mere possession by a law-abiding citizen constitutes a public safety threat. Public confidence in legislation depends in part on consistency and perceived fairness.

Minnesota faces serious public safety challenges. Addressing violent crime requires targeted, evidence-based strategies focused on individuals who commit violent acts. Expanding criminal liability for peaceful possession of common firearms and accessories does not directly address those drivers of violence.

The Public Safety Committee's role is to evaluate whether proposed legislation will make Minnesotans safer. In my view, HF 3433 and HF 3402 expand the scope of criminal law without

demonstrating measurable public safety benefit. They criminalize ordinary ownership rather than harmful conduct, impose severe penalties absent violence, and create enforcement dynamics that may be uneven in practice.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to decline to advance these bills.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Hauptman

Hugo, MN



Shaun Anderson <inordinatebargains@gmail.com>

Opposition to HF3433 and HF3402

Shaun Anderson <inordinatebargains@gmail.com>

Sun, Feb 22, 2026 at 1:28 PM

To: ellen.mcdaniel@house.mn.gov

Cc: MN Gun Owners Caucus Support <contact@gunowners.mn>

Dear House Committee Members,

I am writing to formally express my strong opposition to HF3433 and HF 3402. I believe this legislation is unconstitutional and infringes upon the fundamental rights protected by the Second Amendment. The US Supreme Court case *New York State Rifle and Pistol Association, INC V Bruen* mandated that gun regulations are only constitutional if they are consistent with the nation's "historical tradition of firearm regulation". There is no historical tradition of banning an entire class of firearms that are in common use.

District of Columbia v Heller is the seminal Supreme Court case establishing that the Second Amendment protects an individual's right to possess firearms in common use for lawful purposes. Semi Auto firearms are indeed common use. HF3433 would ban an entire class of guns, Minnesota gun owners will not let this happen as these firearms are used for a multitude of activities, many of the firearms that would be banned under this bill are used for hunting purposes in MN, and oh yes Deer are also hunted with these types of firearms.

I as one will not be asking for permission to own the firearms that I currently legally own, I will not be giving the government permission to search my home without a search warrant. I have a Fourth Amendment right, which protects individuals against unreasonable searches and seizures by the government.

Minnesota has a little thing in the constitution called The Minnesota Takings Clause, found in Article 1, Section 13, and Article 13, Section 4 of the state constitution, prohibits the government from taking, destroying, or damaging private property for public use without just compensation. Well guess what you can't buy back something you never owned.

HF3402 deals with magazines that your bill labels as high-capacity mags, they are standard capacity mags as they are sold with the firearm. There is no such thing as an assault weapon, assault is a verb. In this context the weapon needs to be manipulated by an outside force, the firearms alone cannot shoot itself. But common sense is drowned out by emotions.

Minnesotans are seeing what the Democratic party has been doing to Minnesota and are tired of the fraud. There is no support for gun control in Minnesota and emphasis should be on crime and fraud instead.

The proposed restrictions do not align with established constitutional protections and would place an undue burden on law-abiding citizens. I urge you to consider the legal implications of this measure and to uphold your commitment to defending the constitutional rights of your constituents.

Thank you for your time and for considering my position on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Shaun Anderson

Dear Minnesota House Public Safety Committee,

As a Minnesota citizen, hunter, firearms owner, and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources-certified Firearm Safety Instructor, I would like to register my opposition to **HF 3433 - Semi-Automatic Rifle Ban** authored chiefly by the honorable Rep. Emma Greenman (DFL, HF 63B) and **HF 3402 - Total Ban on Possession of Magazines holding more than 10 rounds** authored chiefly by the honorable Rep. Brad Tabke (DFL, HD 54A).

As the committee is well aware, inanimate objects do not create criminals, nor of themselves do they cause crime to occur. Those who ignore or break our laws are criminals by definition; and those who fail to obey laws already on the books about assault, robbery, and murder will not observe new laws which forbid them to commit such crimes with certain firearms or ammunition feeding devices.

Rather, these proposed bills have the potential to turn hundreds of thousands of law-abiding firearms owners into felons -- not because they have caused injury or deprived others of their constitutionally-enumerated rights, but simply because they peacefully and lawfully have purchased (or inherited) the means to defend themselves from predators (of numerous kinds) and feed their families within an already-abundant network of rules and regulations set by the Minnesota Legislature and the Department of Natural Resources.

I oppose these bills on the grounds that they will be ineffective in dissuading those intent on criminal behavior from using semi-automatic rifles and standard-capacity magazines, and they will hurt and harm a large population of Minnesota's law-abiding citizens who have no intention of committing crime with the tools they have possessed peacefully for years, decades, and even generations.

Thank you for your time and consideration of the voices of your constituents.

Sincerely yours,

Shawn Ethridge, Fulda, Minnesota

Hi Ellen,

I am a DFL Caucus member - delegate & Vice Chair of my ward and a gun owner. I'd like to add my voice of dissent regarding HF 3433 and HF 3402. I have a problem with these bills for a few reasons, and I hope this will be food for thought for anyone planning to approve this bill.

First, about 74% of gun magazines have a capacity of over 10. That would make it a standard capacity magazine, not "large capacity" as defined by HF3402. That's strike one against the language of the bill itself. It shows a lack of understanding of guns. One reason I like these magazines is because of various self-defense and safety drilling I do every year as a responsible gun owner. It's just easier not reloading all the time. But the main reason is that's just how the guns came from the manufacturer with only one exception in my safe. The ONLY ones who will win if you ban those magazines are the manufacturers who stand to gain billions of dollars in the backlog of new magazines (and guns) they need to manufacture. They get wealthy while regular law-abiding citizens will be on the hook at a time when literally everything else has already gone up in price. 43% of Minnesotans are already legal gun owners and not criminals. That's a lot of people who will be upset about needing to both lose and spend money on yet another thing that's important to them. I wish I was reading as much passion from Democrats about affordable food, housing, and health care as I do gun bans. This really shouldn't be on your platform right now.

Second, we can't stop a broken dam with band aids. Banning something so many people already have such as STANDARD capacity magazines or semi-automatic rifles and making things harder for law abiding citizens will not help stop gun violence. It's tougher issues we tackle, such as affordability, healthcare, and education that will do that. I am sickened when I read or hear about mass shootings in the news. No one should ever experience something like that. But you mustn't let your emotions lead you to overreach yet still not be effective. Bans are well-intentioned, I'm sure, but aim at minimizing, not preventing, the shootings. It's an act of "doing something" without tackling the harder jobs. But it's those systemic issues like health care - both physical and mental, - education, and affordability that prevent that. Everyone should have reason to hope for a brighter future.

America is a nation of gun owners and we're seeing a huge uptick in minorities and marginalized people buying in. Most people I know who vote Republican do so because of their stance on guns, not because they hate minorities or transgender people. The day after Pretti was executed, I was at my local gun counter where I am almost always the only woman. But that day after Pretti was murdered, there were no less than 9 couples there all picking out firearms for the wife/girlfriend. More people on the left are picking up guns and learning to use them, and the party needs to catch up. Don't believe me? Feel free to do a check around the state on the increase in gun permit applications recently and tell me I'm wrong. HF 3402 is going to put them in a very tight spot. The language is, as usual, vague enough to be open to interpretation so no one knows from it how much it might cost to keep their weapons. Only that they either need to get rid of their guns and start over, agree to unknown prerequisites, or become felons. There are roughly 100 million Americans with semi-automatic firearms in this country. It's a perfectly normal thing to own, but here in Minnesota we can become felons for it. This is a slap in the face to all of us. Most gun owners own STANDARD capacity magazines (HF 3402) while HF 3433 would ban possession of almost all the semi-automatic rifles in Minnesota. There will be appeals, of course. And hopefully we will see this go the way of the binary trigger ban. But at what cost?

How much are these appeals and arguments in court going to cost Minnesotans? I can get you a list of 20 things I'd rather see my taxes go to. It's personally insulting to think I'd have to pay an as-yet unknown sum of money and allow warrantless searches of my property just to keep something I already saved up a good while to buy. Guns are expensive, and people impacted by this will simply lose a lot of their hard-earned dollars. Guns, lights, sights, holsters... We're talking hundreds to thousands of dollars per individual, not to mention the emotional loss of family heirlooms that have been passed down through generations. That's too huge an impact to be forgotten. Minnesota had a turnout of 74% at the 2024 elections. If we have that turnout again, and all the 43% of gun owners come out to vote for the GOP, you'll have a red state.

There's a reason so many people suddenly want to buy a gun for protection. It seems you may have missed the toll ICE has taken on our state financially, physically, and emotionally. Otherwise, I'd like to think your focus would instead be on how we move forward in recovery together.

Democracy is experiencing a 4-alarm fire, and red districts around the country are not flipping blue because they suddenly want to ban assault rifles. Absolutely no one should be okay with warrantless searches, but particularly after what we've seen our federal government get up to in the past several months. If that hasn't shown us why we don't want to leave things open for more abuse of power, I don't know what else to say. But I am begging my fellow Democrats to read the room and rise to the moment.

I would welcome good faith discussions about guns with people who understand them or at least seek to. But I won't tolerate being treated as though I'm the problem because my gun holds more than 10 rounds. Especially when the 2nd Amendment guarantees my rights to own the guns I've already had now for years. I need to say this again for emphasis: The Democrats aren't suddenly making gains all over the country because people want to ban assault rifles or STANDARD capacity magazines. They are afraid for their rights, their livelihoods, and their democracy. All you're going to do here is create another financial burden and hurdle for Minnesotans. You have much more important things to work on right now.

To Ellen McDaniel,

I'm writing to express my concerns about the proposed ban on semi-automatic rifles and magazines over ten rounds. As a responsible gun owner and community member, I believe this ban could unfairly impact law-abiding citizens.

This proposed ban is unconstitutional. Which means law-abiding citizens will not be able to defend themselves. The way this country is heading right now, we may be looking at a civil war. We have a right to defend ourselves against tyranny and other people who try to do law-abiding citizens harm.

Semi-automatic rifles, in particular, are used for recreational purposes, such as target shooting and hunting small game. Limiting magazine capacity may not effectively address public safety concerns, as it doesn't address the root causes of violence.

Criminals will always have access to guns illegally and do not follow laws. Again, this proposed ban is wrong and unconstitutional.

Instead of a ban, I'd suggest focusing on measures that promote responsible gun ownership, such as enhanced background checks and mental health support. Let's work together to find solutions that balance individual rights with community safety.

Sincerely,

Stephanie

Fellow Minnesotans,

I'm writing to oppose HF 3433 / SF 3654, the proposed bans on semi-automatic rifles and magazines. I understand why these bills are being introduced. The Annunciation shooting was a horrific tragedy that never should have happened. But passing laws that violate constitutional rights while ignoring the real causes of violence is not the answer.

The individual responsible made it clear in his manifesto that he was in a severe mental-health crisis. He referenced regrets over identity confusion, substance abuse, and a desire to cause mass harm. This was not a failure of access to firearms — it was a failure to address a deeply disturbed person before he acted. Too many young people are struggling without adequate, honest mental-health support.

Restricting law-abiding citizens will not stop someone intent on violence. A determined attacker could just as easily use arson, explosives, or a vehicle. Preventing tragedies like this requires addressing root causes, not banning commonly owned firearms. To solve the issue of preventing tragedies like this from occurring a number of things need to happen.

First, Mental health must be taken seriously and addressed honestly. Kids need real support that helps stabilize them, not ideological approaches that may worsen their distress.

Second, School security should not be a partisan issue. Basic protective measures have been delayed or rejected for political reasons, even though they are common sense.

Third, Having School Resource Officers on site is not “trauma-inducing.” A professional police presence can be positive and stabilizing. I'm a graduate of St. Paul Public Schools, and that was my experience before the Defund the Police movement.

It's also worth noting that firearm carry permits are increasing in the Twin Cities, notably among liberals and members of the LGBT community. Many people who once opposed gun ownership now seek lawful means to protect themselves — both from rising crime and from concerns about government overreach. These bills would also affect those same people from exercising a Constitutional right, forcing them to turn in newly, legally purchased firearms.

Bills like HF 3433 / SF 3654 would turn law-abiding citizens into felons while having no effect on criminals. Supreme Court rulings like *Heller* and *Bruen* make clear that firearms and magazines in common use are protected by the Second Amendment. That amendment exists in part to serve as a check on government power. When the government claims it may possess weapons that citizens may not, that should concern anyone who values constitutional limits — especially after recent events like the Federal Metro Surge, under the Trump administration.

Sincerely,

Stephen Mitzuk

February 23, 2026

Members of the Minnesota House of Representatives

Opposition to House Bills HF 3433 and 3402

Dear Honorable Members;

I request that you vote no on these two bills. As a law abiding citizen of Minnesota, these bills will severely restrict my constitutional rights to not only own and bear arms, but also my right to private property and the unwarranted taking of that property.

1. I lawfully own both rifles and pistols that under the definition of these bills will have extremely restricted use. I am restricted to my personal property (which the City of Apple Valley restricts discharge of firearms) or at a "duly licensed firing range", of which non exist in Minnesota.
2. I also participate in the sport of competitive pistol. A 10 round magazine restriction would force competitors to change magazines more frequently. As this can be done fairly quickly, it will have no impact on a mass shooter, but with my age and arthritis, would put me at a competitive disadvantage in my sport.
3. What will you charge for certification? Who sets this amount? What is required for certification?
4. To certify my firearms, I must submit to a search of my property, without a warrant. Anytime some wishes? What are the storage requirements? Past storage bills would make the use of firearms useless for self-defense.
5. What of my property that I own? Although you are not currently confiscating it, you do not allow me to ever transfer it. Rifles, pistol, suppressor and other accessories that I have legally purchased, and in some cases also had to purchase a federal tax stamp, now become worthless. Where is my compensation?

I recognize the desire to reduce violence, but neither of these bills will accomplish that. What is most disturbing is they distract from efforts that will reduce violence of all types, not just gun violence. Mental health, prosecution of violent crimes, stricter sentencing, school protection. These are topics that should be explored. The bills that are presented here only have an impact on those individuals, like me, that do not commit crimes. They will not protect our citizens from those intent on doing us harm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Steven Ludvigson
12734 Foliage Ct
Apple Valley, MN 55124



HF3433 HF3402

1 message

Steve Zutz <chance8742@hotmail.com>

Mon, Feb 23, 2026 at 1:30 PM

To: Steve Zutz <stevezutz@gmail.com>

Hello representative McDaniel.

I am writing you to express my disappointment that these bills were introduced. They do not represent what the majority of Minnesotan's want. They take normal law abiding citizens and make them outlaws. These bills need to be removed from the session. They go against our rights and wishes. Minnesotan's have come out year after year opposing any more gun control and yet bills like these keep getting introduced against the wishes of the people you represent. I oppose this bill and expect you too as well.

Regards,

Steve Zutz

Written Testimony in OPPOSITION to HF 3433

Tuesday, February 24, 2026, 3:00 PM – Public Safety Finance and Policy, Capital 120

Submitted by **Steven Kendall Joseph McCarney**

(1) HF 3433 Makes Unreasonable and Unnecessary Demands Upon Minnesotans.

- a. Criminalization of Presently Lawful Conduct:
 - i. Minnesotans should not be banned from transferring, purchasing, or possessing semi-automatic rifles.
- b. Certification:
 - i. Minnesotans should not be forced to seek and obtain certification of ownership of their semi-automatic rifles.
- c. Inspections:
 - i. Minnesotans that own semi-automatic rifles should not be forced to allow law enforcement to enter their homes without a warrant to inspect the “storage” of their semi-automatic rifles.

(2) Semi-Automatic Rifles are Commonly Used by Minnesotans.

- a. Commonly Used:
 - i. Semi-Automatic Rifles are commonly used by large numbers of Minnesotans for lawful purposes.

(3) HF 3433 is Unconstitutional for reasons including, but not necessarily limited to:

- a. Supreme Court Caselaw:
 - i. The Second Amendment protects civilian ownership of firearms in “common use.” *District of Columbia v. Heller*, 554 U.S. 570, 627, 128 S. Ct. 2783, 2817, 171 L. Ed. 2d 637 (2008); and *United States v. Miller*, 307 U.S. 174, 179, 59 S. Ct. 816, 818, 83 L. Ed. 1206 (1939).
 - ii. For HF 3433 to be Constitutional, the government of Minnesota will have to prove that HF 3433 is consistent with the United States’ historical tradition of regulation of the right to keep and bear arms. *New York State Rifle & Pistol Ass’n, Inc. v. Bruen*, 597 U.S. 1, 17, 142 S. Ct. 2111, 2126, 213 L. Ed. 2d 387 (2022)
 - iii. The Second Amendment does not confer “a second-class right, subject to an entirely different body of the other Bill of Rights guarantees.” *Bruen*, 597 at 70, 142 S. Ct. 2111 citing *McDonald v. City of Chicago, Ill.*, 561 U.S. 742, 780, 130 S. Ct. 3020, 3044, 177 L. Ed. 2d 894 (2010).

- b. No historical analogue exists for HF 3433:
 - i. Semi-Automatic Rifles have been widely available for Americans, including Minnesotans, and commonly owned and used by such since the early 1900s.
 - ii. The first so called “assault weapons bans” date to the late 1980s and early 1990s.
 - iii. Accordingly, it is evident that no historical analogue exists, which allows HF 3433 to be upheld as Constitutional.

(4) HF 3433, If Enacted Will Be Challenged in Court, And Will Almost Certainly Be Struck Down.

- a. HF 3433 Violates Minnesotan’s Constitutional Rights:
 - i. HF 3433 violates the Second Amendment.
 - ii. HF 3433 violates the Fourth Amendment.
- b. HF 3433 Will Almost Certainly Be Struck Down As Unconstitutional:
 - i. HF 3433, if enacted, will be challenged in Court, both in Minnesota State Court and in Federal Court.
 - ii. The Federal Court challenge will likely result in either the Plaintiffs or the State of Minnesota appealing a decision from the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota to the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, and then, onward to the Supreme Court of the United States
- c. Time and Expense:
 - i. Lawsuits will entail significant time and expense for both the State of Minnesota and for Plaintiffs challenging HF 3433.
 - ii. These aforementioned lawsuits will end in defeat for the State for Minnesota.

For the aforementioned reasons, I write in OPPOSITION to HF 3433.



I oppose the two anti-gun Bills, HF3433 possession of most Semi-automatic rifles and HF3402 a ban of magazines holding more than 10 rounds.

I believe that the Constitution Second Amendment clearly allows me to not partially, but fully exercise my right to bear arms and those magazines that make it unlimited operationally. These rights should not be infringed in any way.

I have had my home burglarized twice. My dad was murdered in a home burglary. He was taken outside, tied to a tree in the woods and shot twice in the back of the head. As I am limited in my mobility I need to have access to the gun of my choice and unlimited ammunition magazine to protect myself.

Suzanne Lindquist

Fridley, MN 55432

Hello, my name is Syrgeo Romeo Perez. I'm writing you today with not only a few questions but with great concern.

It seems as if Minnesota law makers do not understand what it means to be a gun owner under the contents of the second amendment. I would like to be apart of your righteous endeavors to guide them to the understanding that as not only as a Minnesotan, but as an American; things like surrendering your firearm due to magazine size is in fact, the government taking away said right to be a Minnesotan and American.

(Long winded I know 😂)

My questions to you are:

How can I be right there with you to be

apart of this?

Can I read a letter to a representative to show that what they are doing is wrong and limiting with your assistance?

Do you have any pointers or advice to make things easier for you?

Now, I wrote this letter as more of an open and useful tool for people to use to send to the people in charge. The municipality of this letter serves to help the people of Minnesota and give information to those who do not know yet of what's going to happen.

Please use at your discretion:

To the Honorable Members of the
Legislative Body and the Citizens of this
Great State.

I write to you today not merely as a voice
in the wind, but as a sentinel for the
ancient and natural liberties that have long
anchored our Republic.

We find ourselves at a precipice where the
pen of the legislator, though perhaps
dipped in the ink of good intention,
threatens to strike through the very heart
of the individual sovereignty it was sworn
to protect.

The collective weight of these recent
statutes, from the 2024 revisions to the
2025 supplements, is not a shield for the
weak, but a tightening web for the free.

Let us speak plainly: when the state

demands a "Permit to Purchase" under Section 624.7131, it has ceased to recognize a right and has instead begun to lease back to the citizenry a fragment of their own inherent freedom.

To require a man to petition his government for the "privilege" of self-defense is to invert the very hierarchy of our founding; it suggests that the state is the source of our rights, rather than their humble guardian.

Consider the intricate labyrinth of Sections 624.7132 and 624.7134, which now govern the quiet exchange of property between private hands. By mandating that a father may no longer pass a tool of protection to a trusted neighbor or a lifelong friend without the intrusive gaze of a federal intermediary, the state has trespassed

exponentially into the private sanctuary of the community.

These are not mere "checks"; they are the foundational stones of a silent registry; a ledger that, historically, has served as the precursor to the gradual disarmament of the populace.

Furthermore, we must address the arbitrary alchemy found in Section 624.712, subdivision 7. By defining "assault weapons" through the lens of cosmetic features, the angle of a grip or the shape of a stock, the law abandons reason for optics.

It criminalizes the common, modern tools of self-defense based on their silhouette rather than their function. Such vagueness in law is the hallmark of the overreach we

once called tyranny; it creates a trap for the unwary and grants the state the power to punish based on shifting definitions of what "looks" dangerous.

Even within the walls of our own homes, Section 609.66 seeks to dictate the terms of our vigilance. While none argue for negligence, the state's attempt to legislate the very arrangement of one's bedside table under the threat of gross misdemeanor is an invasive reach into the last bastion of privacy.

Justice is not found in the multiplication of restrictions, nor is peace achieved through the steady erosion of trust in the law-abiding. A government that views its citizens as suspects until they are "permitted" otherwise is a government that has forgotten its place.

We do not ask for lawlessness; we ask for the preservation of the delicate balance where the state fears the infringement of the citizen's rights more than it fears the citizen themselves. ESPECIALLY in a time where political unbalance is highly prevalent.

Let us return to a tradition where the right to bear arms is not a debate to be managed, but a cornerstone to be honored; unfettered, unmonitored, and unbowed.

With firm conviction,
A Citizen of the Republic

Hello, my name is Taylor Flanders, and I live in the city of Saint Paul. I find it challenging to understand the justification for HF 3433 - Semi-Automatic Rifle Ban and HF 3402 - Total Ban on Possession of Magazines holding more than 10 rounds.

With the rise of right-wing violence, being spurred on by this current Federal administration, now is a rather tone-deaf time to try to disarm the people of Minnesota. Firearms sales are surging among non-traditional gun owners, having realized that their personal safety is their responsibility.

Laws are typically used upon minorities first. This is true in our country and others. Giving more tools to harm black, brown, and queer communities seems to go against the tenants of the DFL. Such legislation mandating inspection of safe storage strips me of my Fourth Amendment rights in an attempt for me to preserve my Second Amendment rights. Due Process is something that matters deeply to me and should matter to all present, especially in the light of recent events.

The banning of magazines of a normal capacity and normal use case, beyond any legal challenge, is a practical farce. The law could not be enforced. These items have no way of being inventoried, they have nothing stopping them from being stored anywhere, and they are so plentiful that any firearms owner present would be stuck guessing how many magazines they even own in total. Even if the millions of normal magazines contained within the state were all somehow accounted for, if border style checkpoints were set up between Minnesota and Wisconsin, the Dakotas, and Iowa searching inbound vehicles for the offending items, the knowledge exists, and magazines could be made here. Those who seek to start from nothing could easily produce a magazine of normal or actually high capacity with hobby-level machining tools or any 3D printer. I have manufactured magazines myself for my own personal use. Regardless of the law, a bad actor *can* get a normal firearms magazine. This is an immutable truth due to the magazines being present in this state and the knowledge of their structure being common knowledge. Magazines are just a box with a spring; they are not hard to understand or make for a sufficiently motivated person.

Why do you want to stop the peaceable and good citizens of Minnesota from having the same tools in their defense as the bad actors you are trying to mitigate *will* have in their offense? Those that seek to harm our citizenry do not care about the laws you wish to pass. They may not come from this state, or even the Midwest. Gun violence should be solved by treating violence as a whole and reducing the incentives for violence. The appropriate education, healthcare, and work opportunities will do what heavy-handed legislation giving the legal system more hammers to hit Minnesotans with could never do: make life safer and better for the common Minnesotan.

Memo: Opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402

To: Committee Administrators Ellen McDaniel and John Hultquist

CC: Representative Elliott Engen, Senator Heather Gustafson

From: Ted Wallerstedt, Resident of White Bear Township

Date: February 22, 2026

Subject: STOP the Criminalization of Law-Abiding Minnesotans

As a retired soldier, security professional, and a father, my life has been and still is dedicated to protecting people and managing risk. I am writing to strongly oppose **HF 3433** and **HF 3402**. These unethical and unconstitutional bills do not solve security vulnerabilities—they target law-abiding citizens while leaving criminals untouched.

- **HF 3433 (Assault Weapon Ban):** This bill is a direct assault on property rights. "Grandfathering" is a myth if I am prohibited from ever transferring my property to my children. It effectively seizes the value of my private investments and restricts my ability to defend my home.
- **HF 3402 (Magazine Ban):** This is a mandatory confiscation order. With no grandfather clause, you are forcing me to destroy my property, move it out of state, or become a **felon** by July 2027 for owning standard-capacity equipment.

In my profession, we secure systems by empowering authorized users and stopping bad actors. These bills do the exact opposite—they disarm the authorized and embolden the criminal.

I am a lifelong Minnesotan. I want my home to be in a state that respects the Second Amendment and the rights of its citizens.

I urge you to stop HF 3433 and HF 3402, and to oppose all anti-gun and anti-property legislation.

Sincerely,

Ted Wallerstedt, 2611 Sandterra Circle, White Bear Township, MN 55110

Thomas L Allison

953 3rd Street E
Saint Paul, MN 55106
651-391-0785

February 19, 2026

To: Ellen McDaniel, Emma Greenman, and the other 33 sponsors of unconstitutional terrorism.

I oppose HF 3433, HF3402, and all the other anti gun bills you are trying to ram down our throats.

I have been a resident of Saint Paul, MN for 16 years. I am a law aiding citizen, with no criminal record. I am a permit to carry instructor in good standing, and have extensive firearms training, defense training, and have studied the law with regards to self defense. I am also educated on the constitution to a degree where I can state my opinion and have it reflect fact, and not be dismissed as conjecture.

I am a law abiding citizen who has done nothing wrong. Why is it when a trans person who is mentally ill, who shoots up a church, it suddenly becomes the pretext for me as a law abiding citizen to have their rights taken away? How is it my responsibility to answer for the crimes of the criminal element?

On July 21st, 2011 my life was changed by a felon / confidential informant with a gun. His name is Glen Smith, aka Donnie, Aka Smoke. He began a campaign of terror. He threatened to murder my family, simply because I told him to get out of my back yard. He and his cohorts shot up my house 4 times, and even though I recovered bullets and spent 18 months of my life trying to put away this felon and his gang, nothing happened. Because the police did nothing, John Choi's office did nothing, I understood that I as a private citizen am on my own. I am in fact my first and only responder to any crime committed against me or my family.

It was this event that took me from being just an artist and writer, to a fully trained permit to carry holder and instructor. I have been teaching permit to carry for over 10 years. I have done more to protect the people of Minnesota, and protect families than any politician in this state. Yet, the leadership if it can be called that claims that we law abiding gun owners are the real problem and the real enemy. Simply because we will not give up our rights based on feelings you label us all as extremists.

Here is the reality of what will happen when your side gets your laws passed.

The criminals, the gangs, the terrorists, the mentally ill trans people, the drug dealers, the thugs, felons, rapists and murderers are all still going to be armed. They will not give up their guns. It will do absolutely nothing except make the law abiding citizens targets in the eyes of the criminal element, whether it be the average criminal, or the tyrannical government types.

There will be minimal compliance. Those who do comply are the cowardly, and not my fellow citizens anyway. The rest of us, the law abiding, the good people who do not comply, will understand that by making us all criminals, that there will be no virtue in being a law abiding citizen, when each and every legal gun owner, is forced to bear the penalties for the criminals who commit the crimes.

I will never disarm. You can pass all the laws you like. I will never give up my rights simply because some constitutionally illiterate politicians pass unconstitutional laws. Any law that is not legitimate, and unconstitutional the American Citizen has a duty to resist. I oppose your laws, and I oppose every democrat and republican who votes for them. My rights to self determination, and to protect my family, my life, and my property, are not contingent on the behavior of other people. There is no societal contract that obligates me to pay for the crimes of others.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas Allison

Citizen and Resident of Saint Paul, MN

Tim C.

Minneapolis, MN 55418

20th February 2026

Ellen McDaniel

Committee Administrator at Minnesota House DFL Caucus
Minneapolis, MN

Dear Ms. McDaniel,

I am writing to ask you to oppose any bans on semi-automatic firearms, standard capacity magazines, or similar proposed legislation.

As a long time democrat I never thought I would be in the position of having to write this letter, but here we stand just a week after Operation Metro Surge has supposedly ended, and our lives as residents of Minnesota will never be the same. I've never known the fear our government has instilled in us over the last 2 months, and regardless of what this administration says, I will never not have that fear until they are out of power.

Never have our constitutional rights and civil liberties been suspended in such a manner - without regard to the law or judge's rulings - or the constitution itself. For a while, and for the foreseeable future until major changes are made at DHS, there will continue to be a fear that armed masked men with semi-automatic weapons and no conscience will be able to break down my door with zero consequences, potentially harming or killing myself or my family.

If you take away my right to effectively defend myself and my home against unlawful intruders, you take away the second amendment. If you allow them to walk around with semi-automatic weapons but prohibit me from defending myself with the same, am I really able to defend myself? The 2nd amendment then becomes nothing more than a hollow statement in the face of fascism or tyranny.

I am not a hunter or sport shooter, but I am a law abiding citizen and an upstanding member of my community. Allowing citizens to own these guns does not promote violence. Banning them does not stop violence. As we know, bad actors and criminals don't follow the law, and it seems increasingly apparent that some in the government don't as well. They will continue to be

able to do harm using these very weapons whether you place a ban on them in Minnesota or not.

By taking this right away from us, you're taking away our sense of peace and security, and replacing it with fear, anxiety, and uncertainty. Please, please do not vote for this ban at a time of so much civil and emotional unrest - you will just be fanning the flames of oppression and tyranny over the people and placing us in an unwinnable and hopeless situation.

Hello members of the committee,

I would like to register my opposition to both HF3433 and HF3402 – both of these proposals infringe on law abiding Minnesotan’s constitutional rights and their ability to exercise their inherent ability to defend themselves and others, their right to privacy, and their rights against search and seizure.

HF3433 damages Minnesotan’s 2nd Amendment rights by attempting to ban firearms that are, as of today, some of the most common types of firearm in circulation in the United States today. It also infringes on the 4th amendment by requiring newly registered owners to “agree to allow [law enforcement] to inspect the storage of the device”, with no limit or restriction.

In the event an individual does not wish to register their firearm, they would then be required to sell or render it inoperable, resulting in uncompensated financial strain on the individuals affected.

This ban is not only a bad idea, it is also dangerous for the people of Minnesota.

Regarding HF3402, this is an unfunded mandate that would render the vast majority of magazines in lawful gun owners’ hands today illegal and mandate their destruction. For many, this would result in a cost in the hundreds if not thousands of dollars, as the vast majority of magazines in circulation today are greater than the 10 round threshold in this bill.

This would put an undue burden on thousands of lawful gun owners in the state, and with no such magazine bans in place in our border states, is highly unlikely to have any meaningful effect on the ability of someone with criminal intent to obtain a standard capacity magazine.

I hope you will reject both of these proposals, as they are exceptionally tone-deaf given the current state of the country, the world, and the increasing numbers of marginalized groups taking up firearm ownership. I implore you to use your valuable time to address the ongoing abuses of power and threats made by the federal government and its agents in the state rather than wasting that time on bills such as this.

Thank you for your time.

Tim Keller

Minnesota House Public Safety Committee
February 24, 2026
Minnesota State Capitol – Room 120

Co-Chair Hon. Rep. Kelly Moller,

Co-Chair Hon. Rep. Paul Novotny,

Members of the Minnesota House Public Safety Committee,

My name is Tim McShane, I am a resident of Olmsted County in southern Minnesota. I am writing you to express my vehement opposition to HF 3402 and HF 3433.

Civilian firearm ownership has a long history in the United States and in Minnesota. Our ancestors used them to hunt for subsistence to survive our rough frontier, and our forefathers required the use of firearms to cast off the oppression from Great Britain in our War of Independence. Civil firearm possession is essential for the People to remain free.

These bills, if they become law, will make millions of Minnesotans criminals. It is estimated by World Population Review that about 42% of Minnesota households own at least one firearm. Semi-automatic firearms, like all pistols, Modern Sporting Rifles and many shotguns, are some of the most popular firearms in the United States and are used for recreational, hunting, or defensive purposes.

The US Supreme Court case, *District of Columbia v. Heller* (2008), upheld that it is legal for any civilian to own and possess any firearms “in common use” which are the exact types of firearms and accessories that these bills seek to outlaw. This “in common use” standard was also reaffirmed by the Supreme Court in *Caetano v. Massachusetts* (2016) and *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc. v. Bruen* (2022). If these bills become law, there is overwhelming legal precedent for their unconstitutionality, and Minnesota taxpayers will be paying for litigation that is destined to be lost in court.

I urge all members of this committee to vote NO on these unconstitutional and egregious bills.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony.

20 Feb 2026

Re: HF 3433 and HF 3402

I am writing as a life-long democrat and gun owner to strongly urge you to oppose any proposed ban on commonly owned semi-automatic firearms, standard-capacity magazines, or similar legislation.

These firearms and magazines are used every day by peaceable Minnesotans for self-defense, hunting, sport shooting, and training — and they are clearly protected under the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Banning them will not make Minnesota safer. It will only punish law-abiding gun owners while doing nothing to stop criminals who ignore the law.

As your constituent, I expect you to vote NO on any attempt to ban semi-automatic firearms or magazines.

I am a member and supporter of the Minnesota Gun Owners Caucus — and they speak for me at the Capitol. But today, I'm speaking directly for myself: I want you to oppose any such legislation.

Additionally, considering what is currently happening in the United States with regard to ICE kidnappings and the two murders in Minneapolis do you really think this is the time to try and disarm your citizens?

I own several guns and magazines which would be affected by these bans.

Sincerely

Timothy Foreman
2870 Arcade Street
Maplewood, MN 55109

612-845-9331
twforeman@gmail.com

Hello to the Minnesota DFL,

I am emailing to voice my concerns regarding the multiple pieces of recently proposed legislation which would ban the sale and transfer of semiautomatic firearms classified as "military-style assault weapons" and fund a statewide buyback program, limiting magazine capacity, and banning the sale and transfer of certain weapons. While I understand and share the desire to reduce violence in our communities, I do not believe any of these bills are an effective way to do so, and they will force single-issue voters away from the DFL, moving their votes to the opposition, and we have witnessed what happens when they get put into power.

The funding, time, and energy to get these bills passed and enforced would be far more beneficial to our community if they were redirected towards areas that have been proven to lower violence: easing access to mental health care, supporting social wellness, and reducing poverty. A concerted effort towards normalizing and destigmatizing mental health care and providing opportunities for affordable food, housing, and education would produce real, measurable benefits for Minnesota families, rather than making law-abiding citizens into criminals.

Sincerely,

T'mone Kleindl

February 23, 2026

Written Testimony on House Bills HF3433 and HR3402
House Committee of Public Safety

To the members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide my testimony for House Bills HF3433 and HR3402.

I am strongly opposed to any additional gun reform bills. Banning widely-owned assault-style rifles and common standard-capacity magazines would have little impact on Minnesota's firearm homicide rate (e.g., MN BCA data), while it would represent a significant infringement of a constitutionally protected right to ensure balance as a check against a tyrannical government. Furthermore, individuals intent on committing violence will not comply with these laws, if enacted. The citizens most affected are going to be those that already follow the laws. These House Bills would transform ordinary citizens into potential felons for owning common property without directly targeting violent behavior. Our time, effort, and taxpayer dollars would be much better spent identifying and treating rising mental health concerns, hardening potential targets, and reducing the overall number of homicides by properly enforcing existing laws.

Sincerely,
Todd Schwartz
Lino Lakes, MN 55014
612-590-7592

Shall NOT be infringed!

My name is Tony Erm.

I am fully against the proposed gun ban HF3433, and HF3402 banning high capacity magazines. It is unconstitutional to ban and take guns away from law abiding citizens. In doing so it would prove that our government is being tyrants and the 2nd amendment is even more necessary for the law abiding citizens. When the government attacks the gun rights of law abiding citizens they are also attacking their 1st amendment rights because the 2nd amendment protects the 1st. I urge you to be logical rather than reacting emotionally to the few cases where non law abiding citizens used guns to not protect themselves and who clearly had mental issues that chose to use them to inflict violence. Laws only limit those who already follow the laws and don't address the actual problem of dealing with the individuals who want to harm others. Instead of turning a large amount of law abiding citizens into possible felons and imposing ridiculous penalties and fines over guns and standard magazines that hold 30 rounds (not high capacity). Why not hold the current criminals and offenders accountable for their actions? Stop allowing plea deals and uphold the law. AR is not an acronym for assault rifle it is the abbreviation for ArmaLite research. The fear mongering and mislabel needs to stop.

If the laws do get passed and they are not also enforced upon government agencies and security details that would prove more over that the MN government is extremely tyrannical and would make the 2nd amendment even more necessary for law abiding citizens.

Please stop trying to take away law abiding citizens constitutional rights when it comes to gun ownership and magazines that are used with them. If anything please pass laws that would allow us to protect our homes and families from those non law abiding citizens in our communities.

Do not pass the gun ban bill HF3433 and the magazine capacity bill HF3042!

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to proposed bills HF 3402 and HF 3433. I appreciate that you will read this letter carefully, and that you will fairly consider its content.

My name is Trygg Sponheim. I am public servant, and my job is to help keep the waters of our State safe. I graduated from the University of Minnesota Morris campus with degrees in Environmental Studies, Sustainability Leadership, and Creative Writing. I enjoy birdwatching and baking. I am an unyielding ally of our State's LGBTQ+ and BIPOC communities and donate to the Human Rights Campaign monthly. I am a protester of the **murders** of Renée Good and Alex Pretti by Federal agents and to the illegal and cruel invasion of our State, and I will not be silent.

Opposition to HF 3402

This is a total ban on magazines with a capacity over 10 rounds, no exceptions. If this bill were to pass, it would make a majority of lawful Minnesota gun owners criminals overnight. Through what mechanism would this bill be enforced? Magazines are not registered. Will the State use its police forces to go house to house, demanding to verify that no such magazines are present? Currently assailed by the illegal actions of the federal government, is it the House's will to further traumatize our communities from within the State? If not through the police, then how does the House plan to enforce this ban? Those who wish to illegally possess and use such magazines can easily purchase them out of state with no I.D requirement. This ban is unenforceable and will create criminals out of lawful owners, rather than stop real criminals who feel no obligation to the law; no one will be safer as a result of this ban. This bill only serves to reduce the ability of Minnesotans to defend themselves and their communities.

Opposition to HF 3433

This bill would prevent law-abiding Minnesotans from possessing semi-automatic rifles. Minnesotans who currently lawfully possess these rifles would be subject to the unknown cost of a certificate, and more perilously, the **invasion of their homes by law enforcement without a warrant**. Such action should be unthinkable given the current illegal assault on Minnesota by the Federal government. This bill would have a disproportionate impact on minority groups, who would likely be targeted by police if this bill were to pass.

It is worth mentioning that this bill would prevent current lawful owners from using their rifles for hunting. In an era of exploding grocery prices and growing food insecurity, this bill would take away a method of putting food on the table for thousands of Minnesota families.

This bill does not make Minnesota safer; it will only serve to hurt lawful rifle owners. Crime with semi-automatic rifles is already rare compared to handgun crime, and criminals will not be stopped by this bill. This bill offers no solutions.

Conclusion: Vote No on These Bills

In an era of increasingly violent rhetoric targeting minorities, LGBTQ+ individuals, and those who would dare speak out, Minnesotans are turning to firearms for protection, as is their lawful right. There is no doubt in my mind that the House knows this. In this context, passage of either of these bills, which would lessen or remove the ability of Minnesotans to defend themselves, would be an unforgivable betrayal. If the House wants to make Minnesota safer, it should start by protecting us from the illegal federal occupation, and by removing violent provocateurs. The People do not trust the State to protect them, because thus far it has failed to. I demand that this legislation, and any like it, be opposed.

Thank you for your attention,

Trygg Sponheim

To: House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee

From: Tyler Gibson

Date: February 23, 2026

Re: Strong Opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402

Chair Moller and Members of the Committee,

My name is Tyler Gibson, and I am a resident of Olmsted County. I am writing to formally submit my opposition to House Files 3433 and 3402.

I am a law-abiding gun owner who prioritizes the safety of my family and my community. These bills do not target criminals; instead, they target the standard, modern firearms and magazines that Minnesotans like myself rely on for home defense and lawful sport.

Opposition to HF 3402 (Magazine Ban):

HF 3402 is an unconstitutional seizure of private property. By banning magazines over 10 rounds with no grandfather clause, this bill requires me to destroy or surrender legally purchased equipment. Most modern handguns are designed for 15-17 round capacities; this bill effectively renders those firearms non-functional for their intended design without providing any evidence that such a cap reduces crime.

Opposition to HF 3433 (Firearm Ban):

The definitions in HF 3433 are so broad that they catch standard handguns based on arbitrary "features" like weight and threaded barrels. Furthermore, the requirement for state registration and the potential for warrantless home inspections to verify "safe storage" is a massive overreach that violates the Fourth Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens.

I urge the committee to reject these bills and focus instead on enforcing existing laws against violent criminals. In a tied House, I expect my representatives to listen to the concerns of their constituents who value their Second Amendment rights.

Respectfully submitted,



Tyler Gibson

2518 Crestwood Ct SE Rochester, Mn 55904

507-261-8910

February 22, 2026

Representative Ellen McDaniel
Minnesota House of Representatives

Dear Representative McDaniel,

I am writing to express my opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402. As a lawful gun owner in Minnesota, I am concerned about how these proposals would impact not only myself, but many responsible citizens across our state.

I take firearm ownership seriously and comply fully with existing laws. The measures proposed in HF 3433 and HF 3402 appear to place additional burdens on law-abiding individuals while doing little to deter those who already disregard the law. Expanding regulations that primarily affect responsible gun owners risks limiting constitutional rights without meaningfully improving public safety.

Many Minnesotans rely on their Second Amendment rights for lawful self-defense, hunting, sporting activities, and protection of their families. Policies that create additional restrictions, financial burdens, or legal uncertainty for compliant citizens should be carefully scrutinized to ensure they genuinely address criminal activity rather than impose new obstacles on those who follow the law.

I respectfully urge you to reconsider support for HF 3433 and HF 3402 and instead focus on strengthening enforcement of existing laws and targeting violent offenders. Public safety and constitutional rights can and should coexist.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Vincent Kerkes

BACKGROUND: The MN DFL exploits knee-jerk emotionalism to cover for their ineptitude while stumping for votes. It's no secret. And today's MN DFL along with their Globalist radical Marxist Democrat Left fellow travelers, have undoubtedly contributed to manifesting today's Age of Stupidity. There is nothing they would like more than a fully disarmed citizenry. And systematically, year after year, they've step by step, exploited "mass killings involving guns" incited directly or indirectly by their radical extremist policies and lawmaking, and rabid rhetoric – to foment irrational public sentiment and emotionally charged narratives that paint the Pistols and Rifles at the core of every "Law-Abiding" American Citizens' constitutionally protected 2nd Amendment rights, as the culprits, while ignoring individual responsibility and denying foundational truths.

As such, Democrats prey on the gullibility of easily-exploitable, low-information communitarian voters who wait until two weeks before each election to understand the issues. So while a complicit national media spews radical propaganda for profit, the MN DFL enjoys the benefit of emotionally charged knee-jerk reactions, as a distraction theft tactic to deflect public attention away from their failures and criminality, while simultaneously obfuscating their voter manipulations. The MN DFL is running that playbook today – drumming up votes for their 2026 re-election bids. Of course that's not a crime. But it's important all Minnesotans know the con. The deceptions fabricated by today's MN DFL activist cabal, manipulating public opinion for votes, is being done despite billion dollar fraud and lawless Sanctuary policies, including the use of Civil War era rhetoric, their sabotage, defiance, and failure to enforce immigration laws, to the point of needing Federal intervention, and further enabling the promotion of dangerous escalations with their ICE OUT activism drumming up emotional capital to frame law enforcement as the bad guys and the DFL as "white nights". This diabolical evil cannot be dismissed as politics as usual.

The MN DFL did this in 2012. They exploited emotionalism surrounding the State constitutional amendment to make same-sex marriage legal, and linked it to the proposed Voter ID amendment as a "humanitarian" issue, to pass the first and defeat the second.

Today, MN Gov Tim Walz and the MN DFL are following yet the same playbook – as negative sentiments against DFL enabled criminal Somali fraud and their Sanctuary protections of criminal illegal aliens has undeniably grown throughout the State, the DFL has pivoted to exploit the national attention to deflect voters away from their egregious mismanagement, and sell them the fabricated emotionalism stoked by their mob affiliate's dangerous obstruction of legitimate immigration enforcement in Minneapolis.

The knee-jerk reaction is the point – the DFL want voters to feel sorry for them. The DFL deliberately pulls at the heart strings of easily manipulated voters every time they are in trouble. The tactic has been embraced by the complete Democratic power spectrum. They redirect voter's attention away from their failures, criminality, and incompetence, in order to replace it with compassionate calls for voters to support the Democratic ticket. That's how they've won elections the past 16 years. That's why they think they can continue abusing their political power, and more importantly continue infringing upon American citizens' unalienable rights expressly protected by the US constitution, like the 2nd Amendment – an egregious sight to behold on the occasion of America's 250th birthday of the Declaration of Independence.

As a lifelong Minnesotan, prior DFL voter, hunter, and gun owner, never could I have imagined such a deviously incompetent and inept DFL leadership, as Minnesota has today. They're anti-American. They've manifested rampant corruption, exceeding billions. They've injected Minnesota's education systems with indoctrination curricula designed to influence youth, not to become better American citizens, but to create the next generation of activist protestors. At no time throughout Minnesota history, has Minnesota faced as perfidious a domestic threat, from elected Democrats, who have abandoned their jobs, betrayed their oaths, opened the US to invasion, and by doing so, increase the likelihood of any number of criminal calamities, randomly jumping out at any American, anytime, anywhere, at anyone's peril.

Since our Republic's inception, the assurance that Americans 2nd Amendment rights were protected, and shall remain so, has without exception been foundational to American constitutional governance. America's founders expressly forbade infringement. And considering the following case being **VERY CLOSE TO HOME**, we not only get a better understanding of the potential scope of founders' reasoning, but now we can easily see firsthand why the phrase "DFL control" is an oxymoron.

Below please find a bulleted summary of the article entitled, "ICE arrests illegal alien who worked as Minnesota Corrections Officer while AWOL from National Guard", published by Redstate, February, 18, 2026:

- An immigrant who overstayed their visa,
- since 2014, while living in the US illegally,
- was able to join a military unit in PA, and go AWOL from the unit,
- falsely claim US Citizenship,
- apply for immigration benefits multiple times,
- And still secure a public safety job as a Correctional Officer in **Minnesota**.

The author concluded, "**That's NOT a FLUKE – THAT'S a STRUCTURAL FAILURE**". And If not for the Federal government's Operation Twin Shield, operating in the Twin Cities, they might not have caught this assailant. But just how many more have slipped through Minnesota's DFL Run Government?

And more generally, this example epitomizes why founders specifically intended to empower citizens with the rights the 2nd Amendment confers – the right to self-defense against imminent dangers both foreign and domestic, to ensure the American citizenry can be confident in responsibly exercising their freedoms and lawful pursuit of happiness .

At a more practical functional level, I am now 70+. I have used a lever action 30-30 all of my life. I know it should only take one shot to kill a deer, but when I have needed that second shot, I have noticed that my ability to re-chamber that second cartridge has seemed to slow down over the years. My research has led me to the conclusion that a .308 chambered M1 Scout Semi-automatic, one shot per trigger pull, designed to come with a 10 or 20 cartridge magazine, would be best for the kind of forested brush terrain I normally hunt. For both self-defense and better control to make that second shot count when needed, the semi-auto operation is a preferred choice. America is not the wild, wild-west anymore. But the possibility of armed criminals who could care less about gun laws intruding ones home, likely carrying top of the line firearms has grown considerably.

DON'T INFRINGE ON OUR 2ND AMMENDMENT RIGHTS.

DON'T PASS MN DFL GUN BAN BILLS HF 3433 and HF 3402.

Stop contributing to America's Age of Stupidity.

Submitted by Warner Gouin – Inver Grove Heights MN 55077

Hello there, I am taxpayer and citizen of the state of Minnesota. As for these upcoming bills HF3433 and HF3402, I am totally against these bills, all these bills will do is empower the criminals and make good citizens of our state criminals with just a vote.

I am sure you will tell me; this will help cure crime, since felons or the criminal element buy their guns in stores! Yea right, they steal or buy them on the black market, yes, the black market does exist, please don't try and fool me.

Then you want people to hand in guns, for what are you going to pay them back with some guns out there are collectors grade stuff, people are not just going to give you them, and lose money, like the state is dealing with right now or was that just a hoax? I think not, we are losing billions of dollars and you're going to waste time with these two bills. Let's get one thing perfectly clear the criminals will not follow any of your laws, for they are not supposed to have guns, but they do anyways. The victim is the common gun owner and citizen of this state that follows the laws of the land.

I love how you politicians say you're for the people, but when we speak up you just push us to the side, like we don't matter, and then send out some form letters that you didn't even write. I think it time you started working for your constituents, instead of following party lines out of DC, and just bashing Trump.

Warren Klein

10512 Grouse Circle NW

Coon Rapids, MN 55433

763-226-6079

Warren Lyman

262-490-5575

wlyman00@gmail.com

February 21, 2026

Ellen McDaniel
Minnesota House of Representatives
Public Safety Finance and Policy

Dear Rep. Moller,

Dear Members of the Public Safety, Finance and Policy Committee,

I am writing to you to express my opposition to the proposed bills HF 3433 and HF 3402 or any legislation to ban commonly owned semi-automatic firearms and standard capacity magazines.

The aforementioned legislation is extremely short sighted and disconnected from the reality of firearm ownership in Minnesota. I strongly urge you to reconsider the legislative approach to firearms controls and not pursue these bills. It should be possible to find a balance between community safety, legal firearm and accessory ownership, and education while not infringing on the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. HF 3433 and HF 3402 do not remotely accomplish this balance and will only punish law-abiding gun owners while doing nothing to stop criminals who ignore the law.

For the past 25 years, I have found community and friendship through hunting and sport shooting. To participate in these activities, I have had to pass tests, go through many background checks, and renew permits through my local police department. Furthermore, firearm safety is my top priority, and it has become second nature through years of experience and education. I do not take short cuts when it comes to safe storage, transportation, or operation of firearms and their accessories. Everyone I know has the same mentality, and if someone is doing something unsafe, others speak up and correct the behavior.

I have never written Legislators before but felt compelled to speak up about this matter of banning industry standard capacity magazines, certain types of semi-automatic rifles, and most magazine fed pistols. Since I could vote, I have eagerly

voted Democrat. However, if HF 3433 and HF 3402 or any similar legislation progress, it would be very difficult for me to continue to support Minnesota's DFL in upcoming elections.

Regards,

Warren Lyman

Honorable Members of the House Public Safety Committee,

I am writing with dismay and existential dread regarding two bills under consideration, HF3433 and HF3402. These bills are a clear violation of the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and violate the rights of millions of Minnesotans, including myself. Turning lawful, safe, responsible gun owners into felons via ill-conceived legislation does nothing to deter or prevent gun violence and will destroy the lives of innocent and law-abiding gun owners. I hope you will rise to the occasion and vote with your conscience, not simply your party affiliation, to stop these bills in committee.

Is gun violence a problem in Minnesota? Yes. But these bills do not address the underlying issues: teenagers with (already prohibited) access to handguns, violent criminals with (already prohibited) access to handguns, and a culture of deteriorating mental health fueled by non-stop hyper-sensational propaganda delivered in 30-second clips on TikTok. What Minnesota needs today is invigorated policing of our streets, holding violent criminals in custody, and a renewed sense of shared civic responsibility to one another as fellow Minnesotans. We do not need a pair of recklessly over-broad bills that make virtually every gun owner a felon.

Semi-automatic rifles are the *de facto* standard for modern long guns. These are widely used for hunting, sport shooting, and self defense. Similarly, almost all guns that support detachable magazines come with or support magazines with a capacity greater than 10 rounds. For semi-automatic rifles, a 30-round magazine is far and away the most common configuration. Even handguns routinely use magazines that hold more than 10 rounds. The idea that applying a completely arbitrary limit to 10 rounds somehow reduces gun violence has zero grounding in reality. There is no reasonable explanation for this — other than as an attempt to confiscate firearms and firearm accessories from law-abiding Minnesota citizens.

The world, and Minnesota, is an increasingly dangerous place. Acts of violence are becoming tragically common in our state. Even worse, some of that violence is performed at the hands of Federal Agents, like the tragic killings of Renee Good and Alex Pretti earlier this year. It is baffling to choose this moment to attempt to disarm the citizens of Minnesota when we need our right to bear arms more than ever.

I know there is intense pressure to pass some version of “common sense gun control” in Minnesota, but these laws are not that. These are ill-conceived, ill-timed, and will unquestionably destroy lives if passed into law. And the victims of these laws will most likely come from our most under-served and vulnerable populations, just as we’ve seen over decades of drug-possession laws that turn otherwise peaceful citizens into felons.

Please reconsider these bills and go back to work on finding actual solutions to violence in Minnesota. Don’t turn me and millions of my fellow citizens into felons.

Thank you for reading my testimony.

William T. Johnson
Savage, MN
202-256-6062

My name is Zach, and I am a Minnesota resident writing to strongly oppose the proposed bans on semi-automatic firearms and standard-capacity magazines.

Bans on firearms and magazine capacity do not reduce violent crime. Instead, they increase costs for law-abiding citizens, restrict personal freedom, and unintentionally promote illegal activity by creating black markets that fund organized crime, drug trafficking, and other violent offenses. Criminals do not follow laws—only responsible citizens do.

As Americans, we have a constitutional right to keep and bear arms. This right exists not only for hunting or sport, but for personal protection, self-defense, and safeguarding our families. In modern society, firearms are the most effective and accessible tool for lawful self-defense. Restricting them does not make communities safer; it leaves responsible people more vulnerable.

There are already tens of millions of semi-automatic firearms and standard-capacity magazines in circulation across the United States. Attempting to ban them would instantly turn countless responsible citizens into criminals without meaningfully reducing access by those who intend harm. History has repeatedly shown that prohibition does not eliminate demand—it only shifts it into illegal markets.

Magazine capacity limits, such as restricting magazines to 10 rounds, do not improve public safety. In high-stress defensive situations, accuracy suffers even for trained individuals. Limiting ammunition capacity places law-abiding citizens at a severe disadvantage when facing violent criminals who ignore such laws entirely. These restrictions only harm responsible gun owners, not those committing crimes.

If the goal is to reduce violent crime, we should focus on enforcing existing laws, improving mental health resources, strengthening penalties for violent offenders, and targeting illegal firearm trafficking. These approaches address the real causes of violence without punishing responsible gun owners.

I urge you to oppose any legislation that bans semi-automatic firearms or standard-capacity magazines. Please stand for constitutional rights, personal safety, and evidence-based public policy.

Thank you for your time and service to Minnesota.

Sincerely,
Zach

**Written Testimony Opposing Semi-Automatic Weapon and Magazine Capacity Bans
Submitted to the Minnesota Legislature**

By Zachary John Newton

Coon Rapids, MN 55448

Email: gossamer211@gmail.com **Phone:** 612-512-8331

Date: February 19, 2026

Dear Members of the Minnesota Legislature,

My name is Zachary John Newton, and I'm a 26 year Minnesotan, a law-abiding gun owner, and someone who cares deeply about the safety of our communities. I'm writing today to respectfully oppose any proposals that would ban semi-automatic firearms or place limits on magazine capacity in our state.

I believe in public safety. Every one of us wants our families, friends, and neighbors to live free from fear and violence. But I also believe that any law we pass must be grounded in facts, fairness, and respect for constitutional rights. These proposed restrictions would not address the real causes of gun violence, but they *would* directly impact responsible citizens like me.

Semi-automatic firearms are not "assault weapons." They are the most common type of firearms used by hundreds of thousands of Minnesotans for lawful purposes — home defense, hunting, target shooting, and competition. I've spent years learning to handle my firearms safely and responsibly. It's an essential skill set and part of who I am as a citizen. Criminals who intend to cause harm will not follow these laws, but they will make law-abiding people like me less able to protect ourselves and our families.

Similarly, limiting magazine capacity is not a meaningful solution to crime. In real self-defense situations, every lawful gun owner hopes they never have to fire a shot — but if that moment ever comes, the last thing we should be worrying about is whether our magazine meets an arbitrary number written into law. In rural Minnesota, where law enforcement response times can be long, the ability to defend oneself effectively is a matter of safety and survival.

Instead of passing bans that divide and restrict, I urge you to focus on approaches that everyone can support — enforcing existing laws against violent offenders, improving mental health resources, addressing drugs and domestic violence, and stopping straw purchases. These are areas where we can make real progress without sacrificing our rights.

I love this state and the freedoms it stands for. Please protect the rights of responsible Minnesotans and vote no on these proposed bans. Let's work together on solutions that make our communities safer *and* keep our constitutional rights intact.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to my perspective.

Respectfully submitted,

Zachary John Newton

Coon Rapids, Minnesota

Hello Administrator McDaniel,

My name is Mitchell Anderson and I am sending this email regarding the HF 3433 and HF 3402 bills trying to be passed this Tuesday. I am sending my own testimony on why these bills shouldn't be passed. As a life long Minnesota resident and a USMC Veteran I believe these bills are going against our rights of the Constitution that was created for the people. I understand there have been terrible shootings around the country lately and my thoughts and prayers go out to those family's, but trying to pass these two bills is only taking the rights of the law-abiding citizen away. Criminals are criminals because they do not follow these laws and they will always be able to obtain anything to harm themselves or others because they are criminals. Passing these two bills only hurt law-abiding citizens for those who want to protect their families from these criminals and those who enjoy shooting sports which is their right to do. So I ask that you please help stop these bills so our Constitutional rights do not get taken away.

Thank you,
Mitchell Anderson

Reason: Opposition to HF3433 / HF3402
From: Concerned Minnesotan
City: Minneapolis, Minnesota
Date: 2/23/2026

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to respectfully express my opposition to HF3433 and HF3402.

While I understand these proposals may be intended to enhance public safety, I am concerned they would impose additional burdens on law-abiding Minnesotans rather than effectively addressing those who actively commit crimes. Responsible citizens who follow the law should not face increased restrictions, financial costs, or legal uncertainty when such measures are unlikely to deter criminal behavior.

Minnesota has long maintained reasonable firearm regulations. Expanding regulatory requirements without clear evidence of improved outcomes risks placing further strain on compliant citizens while failing to meaningfully reduce violent crime.

I am particularly concerned about the constitutional implications of these bills.

First, any provision requiring home checks or inspections as a condition of exercising a constitutional right raises serious Fourth Amendment concerns. The Fourth Amendment protects citizens from unreasonable searches and seizures and recognizes the home as the most protected private space. Requiring law-abiding individuals to submit to government inspection of their homes, absent legitimate probable cause or wrongdoing, appears in direct conflict with that protection.

Second, these bills implicate the Second Amendment. The Constitution states: "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." Conditioning the exercise of that right on invasive inspections, additional barriers, firearm bans, or magazine capacity limitations risks infringing upon the rights of responsible citizens rather than those intent on committing crimes. Constitutional rights should not be treated as privileges subject to excessive regulatory hurdles.

Public safety and constitutional rights are not mutually exclusive. I respectfully urge the Committee to pursue solutions that focus on holding criminals accountable while preserving the rights and privacy of law-abiding Minnesotans.

For these reasons, I ask that you oppose HF3433 and HF3402.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Concerned Minnesotan

As a DFL member and voter, I am writing in opposition to bill HF-3433 and 3402. While understanding the emotions tied to school shootings, these bills are not thoughtful of the rights of the many legal gunowners in Minnesota. As a hunting family, we own and use the AR-15 platform to hunt. We have a significant investment in guns and magazines and with no grandfathering clause in the bill that is a significant loss of investment. It will not be possible to sell these guns or magazines if the bill passes.

In addition, it is important to note that the bill reflects a complete misunderstanding of guns and their uses. For example, magazines with 11 or more rounds are standard and not "high capacity" – indeed, about 75% of magazines would be made illegal if this bill were to pass. These are rifles owned and used legally to hunt – it is misnomer to refer to them as assault weapons or military style weapons. Military weapons require extensive background checks and are already banned from public use.

At the end of the day, the people who commit these horrific shooting are criminals. Criminals will not obey any new gun laws; you will only impact and hurt those of us who comply and are responsible gunowners. The best thing the legislature could do is to pass comprehensive mental health reform which would provide the support and treatment necessary to prevent such events. I would back a bill that helped to prevent mass shooting, but this is not the right bill.

The DFL has already lost some family votes to the Republicans in part because of this stance of gun ownership. The passing of this bill will cause more loss of DFL voters.

House bill HF 3402

Rep. Brad Tabke

I am writing to voice my opposition to this bill as a Minnesota resident and a certified firearms instructor and range safety officer.

Limiting the amount of ammunition a magazine can hold does not make a firearm “safer”. It also does not make it harder for criminals to misuse a firearm in the commission of a crime. Criminals will always have access to magazines of any size, regardless of what the law says.

Limiting the amount of ammunition in a magazine in order to slow down a criminal is a fallacy. Sub-second reloading is the norm in the competitive shooting world.

In the terms of self-defense, criminals will have any size magazine they want while invading your home. It only makes sense that the homeowner can have any size magazine they want as well. Hamstringing law-abiding Minnesotans is not the way to fight crime.

Remember, laws only affect the law-abiding.

John Onnen
308 10th St SE
Barnesville, MN 56514

House bill HF 3402

Rep. Brad Tabke

I am writing to voice my opposition to this bill as a Minnesota resident and a certified firearms instructor and range safety officer.

Limiting the amount of ammunition a magazine can hold does not make a firearm “safer”. It also does not make it harder for criminals to misuse a firearm in the commission of a crime. Criminals will always have access to magazines of any size, regardless of what the law says.

Limiting the amount of ammunition in a magazine in order to slow down a criminal is a fallacy. Sub-second reloading is the norm in the competitive shooting world.

In the terms of self-defense, criminals will have any size magazine they want while invading your home. It only makes sense that the homeowner can have any size magazine they want as well. Hamstringing law-abiding Minnesotans is not the way to fight crime.

Remember, laws only affect the law-abiding.

John Onnen
308 10th St SE
Barnesville, MN 56514

It pains me to see that after witnessing the federal government infringing our first and fourth amendment rights, our basic constitutional rights are not safeguarded by our local government either.

The protection of our liberty and freedom only stands if all our constitutional rights are respected. Not only does this bill infringe on our second amendment right, it blatantly infringes on our fourth amendment rights.

We do not get to cherry pick which basic rights we get to follow and which we don't. As a country which lacks universal healthcare and even the right of a humane life, all we have are our basic rights written in the bill of rights. These foundations are only as strong as the respect is receives from its legislatures.

Dorian Oreins,
Maple Grove resident

February 23, 2026

Re: Opposition for HF 3433 and HF 3402

Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jesse Schallenberger, and I am a Minnesota resident, voter, and law-abiding firearm owner. I respectfully but strongly oppose both bills because they place substantial burdens on responsible citizens while offering little evidence that they will meaningfully reduce violent crime.

HF 3433 targets commonly owned semi-automatic firearms that are widely used for lawful purposes including home defense, hunting, and recreational shooting. These are standard firearms owned by thousands of Minnesotans, not specialized or unusual weapons. Prohibiting possession of such commonly owned property does not address criminal misuse; it primarily affects those who already follow the law.

HF 3402 similarly restricts standard-capacity magazines that come factory-issued with many of the most popular handguns and rifles. The proposed ten-round limit does not prevent determined criminals from carrying multiple magazines or obtaining prohibited items illegally. Instead, it may place lawful citizens—particularly the elderly, disabled, or those facing multiple attackers—at a disadvantage in legitimate self-defense situations.

The proposed bills would impact many law-abiding gun owners including myself negatively. This treads on rights other than the second amendment as well, particularly in any sort of enforcement of these bills, whether it is licensure, or loss of property without just compensation, or unlawful search. Any of these individually puts me and many in my position into the opposition camp.

I urge the committee to oppose this bill. Thank you for your time and consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Jesse Schallenberger

13025 Dahlia Cir Apt 121

Eden Prairie, MN 55344

218-689-5410

jesse.schallenberger@gmail.com

To: The Honorable Co-Chairs and Members of the House Public Safety Committee
From: Matthew Thielhorn, Left leaning voter
Date: 2/23/2026
Subject: Opposition to HF3433 – Semi Automatic Rifle Ban

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony. I, Matt Thielhorn, am a resident of Burnsville, MN. I am deeply concerned about proposed bill HF3433 and am writing in opposition to the measure as a left-leaning voter.

It is my firm belief that this bill will face significant constitutional challenge in the 8th circuit court of appeals. Given the heavily conservative makeup of the court, 10 conservative appointed judges, including 4 by Donald Trump, to 1 liberal appointed judge -and- the 8th circuit's willingness to utilize the Bruen (2022) framework on 2A related cases. We saw this in 2024 in *Worth v Jacobson*, in which the 8th circuit used Bruen's 'history and tradition' test to strike down part of Minnesota's permit to carry law.

The reality is, the 8th circuit striking down a Minnesota assault weapons ban law wouldn't just create an impact in our community. Such a ruling would also create the first ever split-circuit decision on assault weapons bans in the circuit courts of appeal. The Supreme Court have never ruled on whether assault weapons bans are constitutional, and a split-circuit decision will certainly accelerate the conservative majority Supreme Court taking on a case, potentially impacting every state in the union.

Not only would many of the latest proposals be challenged in court under 2nd amendment constitutional grounds in the 8th circuit, but one could also see an argument for the 5th amendment 'takings clause'. If the government does not provide compensation for banned or confiscated personal property, there is likely a violation of the takings clause. Failing to include a buyback program would open this bill, and the related magazine capacity law, up for further legal scrutiny.

I also take issue with the proposal's grandfathering and registration process as outlined in this bill. Without specifying what the "fee" will be to register an exempted firearm with the BCA, this proposal leaves open the possibility of exorbitantly high fees to register per firearm every 3 years. The government should refrain from creating systems that only benefit the wealthy, allowing access to keep firearms that are otherwise prohibited, while penalizing those with less means. This two-tiered system is unhealthy for democracy.

Furthermore, the 4th amendment is clear in its protection against warrantless searches of US citizens homes. This bill as proposed would allow law enforcement the random ability to enter a citizen's home to inspect that a registered firearm is stored properly. There are only a handful of key exemptions to the 4th amendment in which law enforcement may enter a citizen's home without a warrant -- this isn't one of them. Unless your proposal and BCA's inspection process generates a warrant for each inspection, I could not support this measure and would expect it to again be challenged in court.

I am deeply sympathetic to the issue of addressing harm from gun violence, however I feel that the language in this bill has been drafted without consideration to withstand the court system in which Minnesota resides. Ignoring constitutional concerns to enforce public safety is the **exact** excuse that the current federal administration have given us for Operation Metro Surge and their unlawful immigration enforcement actions. I encourage this body not to engage in similar practices. I am confident that members of this body can foresee the civic roadblocks ahead in the 8th circuit and with the Supreme Court. My belief is that there is more we can do at the state level to address the root causes of violence that will have a greater impact on reducing harm long term. Addressing income inequality, opportunity, mental health resources, and violence intervention efforts will have a greater effect on all violent crime without creating constitutional conflicts.

For these reasons, I strongly urge the committee to vote against HF3433. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Matt Thielhorn



Isaac Hernandez <onthaloose@gmail.com>

Formal Opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402 - Infringement on Constitutional Rights

Isaac Hernandez <onthaloose@gmail.com>

Mon, Feb 23, 2026 at 11:34 AM

To: ellen.mcdaniel@house.mn.gov, "rep.terry.stier@house.mn.gov" <rep.terry.stier@house.mn.gov>

Cc: "contact@gunowners.mn" <contact@gunowners.mn>

Hello,

I am writing to you today as a Minnesotan and law-abiding gun owner to express my firm opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402. I find these bills to be fundamentally flawed and disconnected from the reality of responsible ownership.

Regarding HF 3433, the "certification requirement for current owners is bad enough, but the provision requiring owners to "agree to allow law enforcement to inspect storage" is a blatant violation of the 4th Amendment. Expecting a citizen to waive their right against warrantless searches just to maintain possession of their legal property is a dangerous precedent. Our homes should remain secure from government intrusion, and this bill effectively turns a constitutional right into a conditional privilege.

Regarding HF 3402. The proposed ban on magazines holding more than 10 rounds is technically illiterate. Most modern, standard-issue pistols are designed from the factory with capacities exceeding this arbitrary limit. This legislation doesn't "increase safety", it simply penalizes law-abiding citizens by forcing them to modify or surrender their property. It places an undue burden on those of us who practice our rights responsibly while doing nothing to deter those who operate outside the law.

These bills treat the Second Amendment as a hobby rather than a fundamental right granted to us by the Founding Fathers, and a fundamental check against government overreach. I urge you to vote **NO** on both HF 3433 and HF 3402. Focus on the bad actors, not the citizens who are the backbone of Minnesota's communities and skilled trades.

Respectfully,
Isaac Hernandez
Belle Plaine, MN

Response to Proposed Ban on Firearms and Magazines
February 23, 2026

My name is Jacob Ganzer, and I am a law abiding citizen of the state of Minnesota. I am writing this to voice my opposition to both HF3433 and HF3402, the proposed bills to effectively ban semi-automatic firearms and ban on magazines with an over ten round capacity.

Both these laws clearly violate the Second Amendment. There is no historical analog for the ban on the vast majority of firearms, as required by Bruen. Semi automatic weapons are also in common use, and as stated in Heller, banning firearms in common use is not constitutional. The purpose of the Second Amendment is to provide the average citizen the means to defend themselves against a tyrannical state. This Amendment was passed, not for the rich and powerful, but for the weak, the marginalized, and the minorities. It is to give a voice to those whose voice has been drowned out by tyrannical oppressors. Both of these laws take away the rights of the marginalized and make it easier for them to be abused, both by those in authority and by those who refuse to obey the law. These bills will not stop criminals, as they will not obey them. It will only turn more marginalized individuals into criminals who can then be persecuted by the police.

In addition to the Second Amendment, the Fourth Amendment is also violated by HF3433. There is no legal justification for forcing someone to accept an unreasonable, warrantless search of their property to exercise their Second Amendment right. Just as it would be wrong to force someone to give up their First Amendment rights to be safe from cruel and unusual punishment, so too is it wrong for someone to surrender their Fourth Amendment rights to secure those recognized by the Second.

There is nothing common sense about these bills. I can assume the stated intentions of these bills is to make the community safer, but history has shown that analogous laws to these have the opposite effect. Australia, long praised for its strict gun laws, recently experienced a mass shooting with massive casualties where no one could stop it. The United Kingdom, also famous for strict gun laws, is now considering banning knives because criminals are now shanking people who cannot defend themselves. Canada, also in the news for massive gun buybacks, just had a school shooting. Laws like these don't help potential victims; they just make more victims. With regards to the magazine capacity, it is clear that this bill has been proposed by someone who does not understand self defense. As an active and current permit to carry license holder, I have experience with exactly how quickly ten rounds would last in a self defense situation. One does not need to look far to find multiple examples of self defense where multiples of ten, even to the point of hundreds, of bullets were needed to stop an active threat, whether this be in law enforcement or among civilians. We all know criminals will not follow this law; why should we handicap the innocent?

In conclusion, these bills, while they may have good intentions, would do just the opposite. Besides blatantly violating the Second Amendment and the Fourth Amendment, these bills would disproportionately violate the rights of the poor and marginalized by stripping them of their rights to effectively safeguard themselves and their children. I sincerely hope that our legislators will do the right thing by preventing these bills from becoming laws. Thank you.

Dear Representative McDaniel,

I am writing you today regarding:

- HF3402 Ban of magazines holding more than 10 rounds
- HF3433 Ban of Semi-Automatic rifles

I will not waste your time with arguments on these topics as I am certain you and your fellow legislators have heard them all before.

I am a U.S. Navy veteran and a firearms instructor certified by the U.S. Concealed Carry Association (USCCA). I completely support the rule of law and respecting everyone's right to their opinion. During my classes, I stress to my students that they act in a professional manner at all times and respect others' position on firearms and firearm possession.

Additionally, I strongly encourage them to continue their education and training in the safe possession and use of firearms, never violating state laws or other ordinance regardless of whether they agree or not with said laws and ordinance.

I am asking you to re-consider your position on these (2) bills and consider the actual consequences and impact these bills will have on every law abiding firearm owner in the state. With the tapping of a gavel, this bill would criminalize several thousand Minnesotans who think and believe as you and I do, that law and order, peace and respect for others should be at the forefront of all that we do.

If passing either of these bills would stop the criminal element in this state from violating these laws and prevent the senseless death of any of our friends and neighbors, then I would support this action.

In place of legislation that will have no affect on criminal activity, I would urge you and your fellow legislators to first take action with enforcement of existing laws, making sure there are real and severe consequences for people that flout our basic laws designed to protect all of us as well as our rights and desires for life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Very Respectfully,

James D. Teter

HF3402 and HF3433 TESTIMONY

To whom it may concern,

I am writing today to discuss my serious concerns regarding HF3402 and HF3433 (magazine capacity limit and “assault weapons” ban).

First, I will address the baseline issue: the government has no authority over how citizens choose to exercise their rights. If a person is not actively harming another, they are allowed to exercise their rights in any manner they wish.

These proposals will do nothing to prevent the violence lawmakers pretend to care about. Criminals will not follow the new laws, and only otherwise law abiding citizens will be affected.

If anything, these laws will embolden criminals, while simultaneously hamstringing good people. By arbitrarily banning items that people depend on for protection, both gun owners and non gun owner are put at risk.

Gun control propaganda is rampant. Fueled by the very powerful gun control industry. They use manipulation and deception to spread false narratives, and continue telling the lies, long past having their claims debunked. They flood our legislature with money, which many politicians accept without even questioning the narrative.

Passing unconstitutional legislation is easy, but does nothing to prevent violence. Doing the right thing is harder: locking up violent criminals, and providing real help for the mentally ill.

Peacefully,

Jason Bever

Hello,

I am a 45 year old man, who lives in Savage with my wife and two teenage daughters. We are active at our church, supporters of our schools and could be considered a normal Minnesotan family. We typically vote Democrat. The current bills HF 3433 and HF3402 though are NOT ok. I grew up around firearms on both sides of my family. My grandfather especially was an avid hunter who supported organizations such as Ducks Unlimited, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, and others. Even though my family didn't do much hunting, my uncles and aunts did. After the passing of my grandfather, I started getting into sport shooting and consider it one of my favorite hobbies today. My daughters have been to the shooting range with me a few times, but don't like the loud booms or the heavy kick of larger calibers. Utilizing smaller bore calibers, lighter weight firearms, and suppressors has allowed them to have more interest in learning and practicing firearm safety and proper handling. AR format pistols and rifles have allowed them to enjoy shooting with me.

During the just completed Olympics, one of my daughters wanted to watch women's Biathlon with me. She wanted to know about the rifles that they use. While researching them, we learned that they almost all have pistol grip or thumb hole stocks for secure handling, threaded barrels to attach covers to keep snow out of the barrel, and they have detachable magazines. All of which are features these bills are attempting to ban.

Have you considered the impact on sport, not just Biathlon, but on all of the USPSA events that happen around the state? This legislation will put them out of business. These are law abiding citizens who participate and practice safely with the very firearms that some people think are scary or are weapons of war. They are not. They are in very common use all around the country. They are in common use for home defense right in our communities because they are easy to handle, their ammunition is small in caliber and is designed to easily tumble which prevents over penetration through walls, helping keep family and neighbors safer. Don't take away our sport or limit how we can participate in it, and don't force businesses to close due to the impact to law abiding citizens of MN that these bills will have.

Frequently we see in the news about home invasions with multiple offenders. Putting limits on magazine capacity puts my family at harm. Putting limits on threaded barrels which allow the use of a suppressor to help protect my families hearing when our lives are at risk is hurtful. Not allowing law abiding people living in your district to choose the self-defense firearm which they are the most comfortable using in a high stress situation makes their family and their neighbors in danger. Don't put our families at risk. Let the law abiding

people of our communities help protect it the best that we can without being limited in that ability. Put your effort and money into programs to help educate firearm safety, to provide mental health resources and to enforce existing laws that already make all of the acts which are driving this wrongly focused bill illegal. Don't make me a criminal.

This is why I implore you to vote NO on both HF 3433 and HF 3402, as well as any other proposed firearms restriction legislation. The Gun Owners Caucus of Minnesota and Firearms Policy Coalition and Gun Owners of America speak for me and the tens of thousands of other Minnesotan's who will be impacted by this legislation.

Thank you for voting against these bans,

Jason Dionne

Savage, MN

February 23, 2026

Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jason Morton, and I reside in Pelican Rapids, Minnesota. I am writing to respectfully oppose HF3433/SF3654 and HF3402/SF3714.

These proposals would restrict commonly owned firearms and standard-capacity magazines used by law-abiding citizens while doing little to deter criminal activity. I believe they erode constitutional protections and place additional burdens on responsible Minnesotans who already comply with existing laws.

I value both public safety and individual liberty. I urge the committee to focus on enforcing current laws and addressing violent offenders rather than restricting the rights of lawful residents. Legislation of this magnitude would cause me to seriously reconsider remaining in Minnesota in order to preserve rights I consider fundamental.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jason Morton
Pelican Rapids, Minnesota

Chairperson and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today. My name is Jeffrey John, and I am here to respectfully oppose proposals to ban the AR-15 and similar semi-automatic rifles.

The AR-15 is one of the most commonly owned rifles in the United States. It is a semi-automatic firearm, meaning it fires one round per trigger pull, functionally similar to many other semi-automatic rifles and handguns that have been legally owned for decades. Millions of law-abiding Americans use AR-15-style rifles for lawful purposes including sport shooting, hunting, and home defense.

The Supreme Court's decisions in *District of Columbia v. Heller* and *McDonald v. City of Chicago* affirmed that the Second Amendment protects an individual right to keep and bear arms commonly possessed for lawful purposes. More recently, *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc. v. Bruen* emphasized that firearm regulations must be consistent with the nation's historical tradition of firearm regulation. Given the widespread ownership and lawful use of AR-15-style rifles, a categorical ban raises serious constitutional concerns under this framework.

Beyond constitutional considerations, policy effectiveness must also be addressed. According to data from the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports, rifles of all types account for a small percentage of overall firearm-related homicides compared to handguns. While every act of violence is tragic and unacceptable, public policy should focus on measures most likely to reduce harm. Efforts aimed at strengthening enforcement against violent offenders, improving mental health interventions, addressing illegal trafficking, and enhancing background check compliance may yield more measurable safety benefits than banning a specific class of commonly owned firearms.

Additionally, bans that focus on cosmetic or platform-based distinctions can create confusion and uneven enforcement. The term "assault weapon" often encompasses firearms based on external features rather than function. The AR-15 operates in the same semi-automatic manner as many other rifles that would not be covered under such bans. Legislation should be clear, narrowly tailored, and grounded in objective criteria.

I believe we can pursue solutions that promote public safety while respecting constitutional rights and the lawful activities of responsible gun owners. These could include:

- Strengthening penalties for violent misuse of firearms
- Improving reporting and follow-up in background check systems
- Supporting community-based violence intervention programs
- Investing in school safety and threat assessment initiatives

Public safety and constitutional rights are not mutually exclusive. A broad ban on the AR-15 risks infringing on the rights of millions of law-abiding citizens while offering uncertain benefits in reducing crime.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey John

St. Paul, MN

Dear Members of the Minnesota House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee,

My name is Jeff, and I am a resident of Oakdale, Minnesota. I am a peaceful, law-abiding citizen with no criminal record, and I have responsibly owned firearms for many years, including magazines that hold more than 10 rounds. I am writing this testimony to strongly oppose HF 3402, which would impose a total ban on the possession of these standard-capacity magazines.

As a responsible gun owner, I use these magazines for target practice at the range and for home defense. Banning them will not impact criminals who ignore laws, it will strip away my ability to effectively protect myself and my family if needed. For instance, my daughter owns an AR-15 rifle, which she chose specifically for self-defense. My daughter is not a large person, just over 5' tall and maybe 100lbs, the AR-15's lightweight design, low recoil make it an ideal tool for her to handle confidently. My daughter is a single woman living by herself, restricting her to 10 rounds arbitrarily limits her defensive capabilities and puts her at a disadvantage against potential attackers who won't comply with this law.

This bill infringes on our Second Amendment rights, which protect the ownership of commonly used firearms and accessories for self-defense. Magazines holding more than 10 rounds are standard issue for many popular firearms and are owned by millions of Americans for lawful purposes. Punishing responsible citizens like me and my daughter won't stop violence—it will only empower criminals who obtain these items illegally.

I urge you to vote against HF 3402 and protect the rights of law-abiding Minnesotans. Instead, focus on measures that address root causes of crime, such as mental health support and enforcing existing laws against violent offenders.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Jeff Oakdale, Minnesota

To the people elected officials of the 2026 Minnesota State Legislature.

As a Citizen of the United States of America and Minnesota it is a shame that honest law-abiding gun owning citizens must defend our Constitutional given rights against lawmakers who are foolish enough to blame guns for crimes instead of blaming criminals that commit the crimes. So, the bills of HF 3433 and HF 3402 don't protect the citizens of Minnesota. They steal the God given rights given by the Constitution of the United States and the 2nd Amendment of gun ownership. The 2nd Amendment didn't limit what type of gun a citizen can own. The founding fathers were very smart people who knew that technology would get better. This is why the 2nd Amendment is written like it was. So that lawmakers can not make any law that infringes on the rights of American citizens. Both these two bills are totally offensive to the 2nd Amendment and the Constitution of the United States of America. These bills punish law abiding citizens instead of punishing the criminals who use guns for crimes. These bills blame guns instead of blaming criminals. So, I ask Democrats who are pushing these anti-American bills and especially Rep. Emma Greenman (DFL, HF 63B) and Rep. Brad Tabke (DFL, HD 54A) this question. If there is a table with all kinds of guns. Pistols, hunting rifles, single shot guns, revolvers and yes even semi-automatic rifles with magazines larger than 10 rounds and all these guns are fully loaded, one round in the chamber and the safety catches off. Again, all these guns are on this table and all in their most dangerous and unsafe condition. How many people, animals or targets will be shot? The answer is "ZERO". Yes Democrats, the answer is ZERO, NONE, NADA, ABSOLUTELY NOT ONE PERSON WILL BE SHOT! It takes a person to pull the trigger. The problem is the criminals and not semi-automatic rifles with magazines larger than 10 rounds. All these two bills do is punish law abiding gun owning citizens. Stop it. Punish criminals instead of releasing them out of prison early. These bills will do absolutely nothing to stop gun violence.

I am writing today in opposition to both HF 3433 and HF 3402. To start with, simply put I believe these bills fly in the face of recent US Supreme Court decisions and are therefore unconstitutional. These are “commonly used” items and in and of themselves represent no danger to anyone, it is the person using them that cause the problem.

I find it very interesting that you have chosen to go the route of making people feel good instead of passing good laws that will help with the violence situation not things. Look at Great Britian, they outlawed buns (for the most part) and now they are trying to ban common knives because that is the tool of preference there at this point in time.

Frankly it embarrasses me that members of the Minnesota house are gaslighting their constituents by telling them this will do anything, it is simply another attempt to bypass the Constitution.

This bill will create many new law abiding felons in Minnesota, which may well be your goal because that will eliminate the votes of people who oppose the DFL cabal and their nasty illegal tactics.

Good Morning Minnesota Legislators,

I am writing you today in regards to the hearings on HB 3402 (Banning "high capacity" magazines) and HB 3403 (Banning semi-automatic weapons). I think one of the most important points I can make today, is that my peers, my family and I all live in districts that are represented by DFL legislators. Having attended previous such hearings, I am aware a regular view of dissenting opinions are attributed to voters who don't live in districts the majority represents and therefor feels little need to heed their wishes. Come November the people I know sharing these views represent voters who *do* live in your districts.

These bans do nothing but criminalize law abiding Minnesotans. You know this. It stands in stark contrast that last month you stood on the capital steps defending Alex Pretti's possession of his firearm and magazines, but with these bills you would sentence him to 15 years in prison for having them. Was he a criminal then after all?

I would tell you that every limitation you place on the ability of Minnesotans to exercise their Second Amendment rights, I see as a legitimate limitation that can equally be imposed on any other fundamental right - like voting. If gun owners have to forfeit their 4th Amendment rights to keep and possess firearms, registered voters don't need it either, by *your* rationale. Frankly I disagree with that statement, but your actions indicate that's not true for you.

Here is my promise to you. I am a disabled veteran, and former law enforcement officer. When you pass these bills into law, understand I won't just be donating money to the organizations who will fight this in court - I will be one of the plaintiffs.

I am a moderate voter, I agree on many of the same solutions to our problems that you do. I've met with a number of you in person at various political events and sessions and found you reasonable people. When you decide to make these solutions your cause, you force me to give my vote to those who don't. Though I believe our current red tape to own firearms in Minnesota is overreach, I accept them and have abided by them. I have a CCW, I've previously done the licensing to purchase when I didn't have one. I keep my firearms in a safe, and I have no illusions of being Rambo. Again, I've been to war (unlike our Governor who claims he has) and I've been a cop. I am a Minnesota Fire Arms Safety Instructor. I have the extensive training you would claim I should have to exercise my rights, and yet you work to pass laws that would make me a felon and strip me of them.

My last point to make, is that your ignorance on firearms is plain as day. None of these laws will prevent the sorts of dangers you wish to avoid and claim they will. All you're going to do is make the next violent event more lethal not less. You're simply going to make every traffic stop, police encounter, and gang intervention more lethal and difficult. Laws punish, they don't prevent. You would think people who write and pass laws would know that.

See you in the election and court,

Jeffrey Dale

Groveland Park neighborhood, St. Paul.

2/23/2026

Dear Representative Ellen McDaniel,

I write to you today to express my deep concern regarding the issue of gun control. As an advocate for our constitutional rights, I believe that implementing gun control measures HF3433 and HF3402 would not only be illegal but also detrimental to public safety.

Firstly, let me clarify that gun control is a significant violation of our Second Amendment rights as citizens of the United States. The U.S. Supreme Court has consistently ruled that individuals have a fundamental right to bear arms for self-defense and protection against tyranny.

Moreover, historical data demonstrates that stricter gun control laws correlate with increased crime rates. Criminals, by nature, will not abide by these laws, leaving law-abiding citizens defenseless while creating an illusion of safety. This leaves vulnerable populations at a greater risk of victimization.

In conclusion, I urge you to reject any attempts to infringe upon our constitutional rights and to consider the potential consequences of implementing gun control legislation. It is essential that we protect both individual liberties and public safety by focusing on addressing the root causes of crime rather than limiting access to legal firearms.

Sincerely,

Jeremiah Patrick
Buffalo, MN

Hello,

I am telling you as a Minnesota resident to remove all of the gun control bills or at the very least to vote no on them. I don't understand how these are even able to be introduced as bills. They are trying to remove the rights of citizens which is unacceptable and is also in violation of the Constitution. The state doesn't get to decide that it can violate the Constitution of the nation just because it feels like it. Again HF 3433 and HF 3402 need to be removed or voted no on.

Thank you,

Jeremy Elliott

Opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402 Minnesota House of Representatives – 94th Legislature

As a lifetime Minnesota resident, I am writing to express my opposition to House Files 3433 and 3402.

I hold a deep respect for the Constitution and the rights it protects, including the right to keep and bear arms under the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution and Article I, Section 13 of the Minnesota Constitution. I believe these rights are fundamental, and I am concerned that both HF 3433 and HF 3402 represent an unnecessary and overbroad infringement on them.

HF 3433 would ban the possession of firearms that are commonly owned and lawfully used by Minnesotans for self-defense, recreation, and sporting purposes. HF 3402 would criminalize the possession of standard-capacity magazines that have been legal to own for decades. Together, these bills shift Minnesota away from regulating dangerous behavior and toward criminalizing possession by otherwise law-abiding citizens.

Supporting the Second Amendment is not incompatible with supporting public safety, and I believe Minnesota can and should pursue policies that reduce violence without infringing on the rights of responsible citizens.

Public Safety Effectiveness and Legislative Focus

I strongly support meaningful public safety enhancements. Policies that improve enforcement against violent offenders, hold repeat criminals accountable, strengthen prosecution, address mental health challenges, and disrupt organized criminal activity deserve serious attention and bipartisan support.

My concern is that HF 3433 and HF 3402 do not advance those goals. Minnesota already has laws that prohibit firearm possession by individuals who commit violent crimes or pose a demonstrated risk to others. The people responsible for gun violence are overwhelmingly already prohibited from possessing firearms under existing law. Expanding bans on firearms and magazines that are commonly owned by law-abiding citizens does not address enforcement gaps, repeat violent offenders, or criminal networks.

At a time when law enforcement and prosecutors are already stretched thin—and when the state continues to grapple with well-documented failures in oversight and accountability—it is difficult to justify legislation that creates new possession crimes rather than focusing on enforcing the laws already on the books. Public safety is best served by directing resources toward dangerous individuals, not by criminalizing constitutionally protected conduct by responsible Minnesotans.

Broader Impacts on Minnesota's Direction

I am also concerned about the broader signal legislation like this sends about Minnesota's priorities and trajectory. Our state is facing serious challenges, including ongoing fraud investigations, a weakening competitive position relative to other states, and a growing number of residents choosing to relocate elsewhere. While no single bill is responsible for these trends, policies that erode individual freedoms and increase regulatory burdens contribute to a perception that Minnesota is becoming less focused on good governance and more willing to restrict lawful behavior without clear evidence of benefit.

For many residents, myself included, these issues factor into long-term decisions about where to live, work, and raise a family.

Conclusion

For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to oppose HF 3433 and HF 3402. Minnesota can pursue real public safety improvements without sacrificing constitutional rights or further dividing law-abiding citizens from their government. I hope the Legislature will focus its efforts on enforcing existing laws, improving accountability, and addressing the root causes of crime—rather than expanding restrictions that miss the mark.

Respectfully,

A concerned Minnesota resident

HF 3433

This new law is out of touch with Minnesota's modern economy. In the last five years, multiple new gun ranges have opened in the Twin Cities. What do they sell? AR-15s. People collect them, they shoot, they spend money. They're fun to shoot and have much lower recoil, making them ideal for women. Any ban creates a two class society, one where wealthy people with large collections will have an advantage over those that do not. Also the value of the guns will skyrocket because they cannot be purchased, much like ivory. You may rename the bill the, "Enriching Wealthy Republicans Act", because make no mistake, this will create thousands of dollars in new wealth for many people. It is clear what this law is meant to do other than put undue restrictions on gun owners. State law has mandated, since 2023, that transfers are required to meet certain criteria (permit to purchase, plus paperwork when doing private party). Has that failed? Do we make new laws for the purpose of galvanizing new political donors? Has the public been banging on the door demanding new gun restrictions? And, have gun laws that have been around since the 1960s prevented the proliferation of 3D printed Glock switches that turn a Glock into a machine gun for about \$5? The answer to all these is obviously no.

HF 3402

This bill will turn a \$10 magazine into a \$75 magazine, as the Clinton era ban did. The Clinton era ban is why larger capacity magazines are sold in ten packs and also the reason people buy them. They enjoy shooting, they enjoy loading their magazines before they shoot. Range time is paid for by the hour, do they want to spend their time shooting or do they want to spend their time loading magazines? It's a slow process as the springs in the magazine get tighter as they are loaded.

As it's been proven, most violent gun crimes occur with a pistol. More often than not, it was a stolen or otherwise illegally procured handgun in possession by a prohibited person. Banning magazines with a massive, sweeping bill like this serves only to create tens (to hundreds) of thousands of criminals overnight. It will do nothing to change how criminals operate or their motives. If a violent offender is in possession of a firearm, how is a magazine capacity law going to change their actions? This law focuses on causing more issues instead of addressing the revolving door of violent criminals who are sentenced with leniency, only to go back out and reoffend. If public safety was actually a concern, keeping these people behind bars would be a priority. This bill is again devoid of any rationale and serves simply to push an agenda, and will end up creating criminals out of otherwise law abiding citizens.

Subject: Opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402

Dear Representative/Senator,

I am writing to express my sincere and steadfast opposition to Minnesota House Files 3433 and 3402.

These bills represent sweeping prohibitions that would dramatically restrict the rights of law-abiding Minnesotans while doing little to address violent crime. HF 3433 imposes a near-total ban on the sale, transfer, and possession of most semi-automatic rifles, with limited grandfathering that applies only to current owners and prohibits any future transfers. It requires a certificate at an unknown cost, allows warrantless home inspections for “safe storage,” restricts lawful possession to one’s home or a licensed firing range, and even prohibits their use for hunting. HF 3402 bans all magazines capable of holding more than ten rounds, with no grandfathering, and requires their destruction, surrender, or removal from the state by July 1, 2026.

These proposals deeply concern me for several reasons.

First, women are disproportionately vulnerable to violent crime, particularly domestic violence and assault. Firearms serve as a critical equalizer against a significant disparity of force. A firearm allows a woman—often physically smaller and at a strength disadvantage—to defend herself effectively against a larger attacker. Semi-automatic firearms with standard-capacity magazines are among the most practical and versatile tools for self-defense. They provide adaptability for everyday carry, home defense, hunting, and competitive shooting. Removing access to commonly owned firearms and standard magazines reduces the ability of women and other vulnerable individuals to protect themselves.

There is a well-known saying in the firearms community: “Two is one, and one is none.” Mechanical devices can malfunction. Ammunition can misfire. In a life-threatening situation involving multiple attackers or heightened stress, arbitrary magazine limits create unnecessary jeopardy. Restricting law-abiding citizens to ten rounds does not limit a criminal’s intent, but it may severely limit a victim’s ability to survive.

Second, HF 3433 introduces significant financial burdens. The requirement of a certificate at an unknown cost, coupled with compliance obligations and potential storage restrictions, creates barriers that disproportionately impact middle- and lower-income Minnesotans. Law-abiding firearm ownership should not become a privilege reserved only for the wealthy. Rural Minnesotans would be particularly harmed by restrictions that limit possession to one’s home or to a “licensed firing range.” Many communities do not have convenient access to such facilities, meaning residents could be forced to travel unreasonable distances simply to exercise a constitutional right.

Economic barriers to constitutional rights raise serious equity concerns. When compliance costs increase, those with greater financial resources are better positioned to absorb them. Communities with fewer economic advantages are more likely to be disproportionately burdened. Public policy should avoid unintentionally creating disparities in access to lawful self-defense tools.

Finally, these bills represent a direct infringement on the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution. The right to keep and bear arms exists not only for personal protection, but also as a foundational safeguard to ensure a government that remains accountable to the people. It is a right that underpins the principle of a government “of the people, by the people, and for the people.” Broad bans on commonly owned firearms and standard-capacity magazines erode that constitutional protection.

Minnesotans deserve policies that address criminal misuse of firearms without punishing responsible citizens. I respectfully urge you to reject HF 3433 and HF 3402 and instead pursue solutions that target violent offenders while preserving the rights and safety of law-abiding residents.

Thank you for your time and your service to our state.

Sincerely,

JoAnne Max

Women for Gun Rights Minnesota State Director

Max Defense, LLC Owner/Operator

Hibbing, Minnesota

Testimony Against HF 3433 and HF 3402

February 23, 2026

Minnesota House Public Safety Committee:

As you know, criminals do not care about the law. If they did, they would not be criminals. Passing sweeping restrictions on commonly-owned firearms and magazines HAS NOT and WILL NOT ever stop criminals from committing evil acts. Such restrictions ONLY serve to make law-abiding citizens less able to defend themselves and their families from those who would wish to harm them.

It is clear that the DFL's aim is twofold: 1) to disarm law-abiding citizens, and 2) to turn law-abiding citizens into felons overnight by suddenly declaring that items, ***which have been legally acquired and have been legal to own for decades***, are now illegal. Make no mistake: passing these bills is morally reprehensible, and will personally impact many thousands of law-abiding gun owners like myself, who merely want to live peaceful and quiet lives as we live in and serve our communities.

Such a peace is fostered by lawmakers who, first and foremost, truly understand the difference between good and evil. This understanding is paramount, and will affect every decision that you make on behalf of the people you serve. Furthermore, this peace is fostered by lawmakers who would seek to bless those who do good and punish the true criminals, those who would terrorize their communities with violent crime. Finally, this peace is fostered by lawmakers who respect the right of their constituents to protect themselves and their families against perpetrators of evil.

A society cannot function properly when its elected representatives turn the truth upside down by punishing law-abiding citizens and rewarding criminals. **The passage of HF 3433 and HF 3402 will do exactly this, and MUST be opposed.**

I pray for all of you who are in positions of leadership, that you would act justly and make righteous decisions, not just to serve ideological causes, but to truly serve the people of Minnesota.

Respectfully,

Joel Erickson
Fergus Falls, MN

Joel Ostmoe
13611 Forestview Lane N.
Dayton, MN. 55327
2/22/26
House Public Safety Committee

RE: Opposition to Proposed Bans on Semiautomatic Rifles and Standard-Capacity Magazines, HF 3433 and HF 3402.

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to formally express my strong opposition to any proposed legislation that seeks to ban commonly owned semiautomatic rifles or limit magazine capacity. This an egregious violation of Minnesotan's Constitutional rights.

Such measures infringe upon the fundamental rights of law-abiding citizens and fail to address the root causes of violence in our communities.

My opposition is based on the following key points:

- * Constitutional Precedent: In *District of Columbia v. Heller* and *NYSRPA v. Bruen*, the Supreme Court established that the Second Amendment protects "arms" that are in common use for lawful purposes. Semiautomatic rifles like the AR-15 are the most popular firearms in America, used by millions for self-defense, hunting, and organized shooting sports.

- * The "Common Use" Standard: Modern magazines holding more than 10 rounds are standard equipment for the vast majority of handguns and rifles sold today. Arbitrary limits on capacity do not hinder criminals, who ignore such laws, but they do place law-abiding citizens at a tactical disadvantage during a self-defense encounter.

- * Practical Utility for Self-Defense: Many citizens, including those with limited physical strength, prefer modern rifles for home defense because they are easier to aim and control than handguns. Restricting access to these tools disproportionately impacts those seeking the most effective means of protecting their families.

- * Misdirected Focus: Data often shows that "assault weapon" bans have a negligible impact on overall homicide rates, as rifles of all types are used in only a small fraction of violent crimes compared to other implements.

I have firearms that I have acquired for self defense, but I have recently found I enjoy sport shooting at the range.

Public safety is better served by enforcing existing laws, improving mental health resources, and targeting repeat violent offenders.

I urge you to uphold your oath to the Constitution and oppose any legislation that penalizes law-abiding owners for the actions of criminals.

Please focus on evidence-based solutions that protect our communities without eroding our civil liberties.

Sincerely,

Joel Ostmo

Subject: Opposition to Proposed Rifle and Magazine Restrictions

Dear House Committee Members,

I am writing to respectfully express my opposition to any proposed legislation that would ban commonly owned rifles or standard-capacity magazines. While I understand and share the desire to reduce violence and improve public safety, I believe these particular restrictions would be ineffective, burdensome to law-abiding citizens, and misaligned with both constitutional protections and practical realities.

First, rifles targeted by proposed bans are among the most widely owned firearms in the United States and are used by millions of responsible citizens for lawful purposes, including home defense, sporting activities, and hunting. Data consistently shows that these rifles are used in a very small percentage of violent crimes, suggesting that prohibiting them would have minimal impact on criminal activity while significantly affecting ordinary citizens.

Second, restrictions on magazine capacity raise similar concerns. Standard-capacity magazines are integral to the normal operation of many firearms and are not inherently linked to criminal misuse. Limiting magazine capacity would primarily affect individuals who follow the law, while those intent on committing crimes are unlikely to comply with such regulations.

Third, I believe that public safety is best served by policies that focus on evidence-based interventions—such as improving mental health resources, strengthening enforcement of existing laws, and addressing the root causes of violence—rather than broad bans that do not meaningfully target criminal behavior.

Finally, I am concerned that these proposals risk infringing on the constitutional rights of responsible citizens. The right to keep and bear arms is a fundamental liberty, and any legislation affecting it should be narrowly tailored, data-driven, and demonstrably effective. Broad prohibitions on widely owned firearms and accessories do not meet that standard.

I respectfully urge you to oppose any rifle or magazine bans and instead support measures that address violence at its source while preserving the rights of law-abiding Americans. I appreciate your time and your service to our community, and I hope you will consider the concerns of constituents like me as these proposals move forward.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Joel Robinson

February 23, 2026

John Huiras
2319 Northridge Drive
North Mankato, MN 56003

Ellen McDaniels;

As a resident of MN, I am voicing my opposition to bills HF 3402 (Magazine restriction) and HF 3714 (Semi Automatic Rifle Ban). Neither of these bills is needed or necessary for our state or quite frankly in this country. They are antithesis to our founding principles and the 2nd Amendment.

I strongly urge you and your fellow representatives to vote no and reject these bills in their entirety. Besides being in direct opposition to the letter and the spirit of our constitution, there is no statistical evidence or basis that shows these would make our state safer or provide any meaningful benefit.

With all of the other issues that face our state (Illegal Immigration, Systemic Fraud, Budget Shortfalls), I struggle to understand why this would be on the agenda or under consideration at all.

All of you swore an oath to the constitution. It is not within your purview to infringe on the rights of those you represent. Do your duty to the state and our country, reject these bills.

Sincerely yours,
An Independent and Active Voter

John L. Lewin
817 Park Ln
South Saint Paul, MN 55075

Ellen McDaniel
Committee Administrator – DFL Caucus
Minnesota House of Representatives

Dear Ms. McDaniel and Members of the Minnesota House Public Safety Committee:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to bills HF 3433 (semi-automatic rifle ban) and HF 3402 (magazine ban). These bills are troubling for many reasons, but they are also in direct opposition to the expressed firearms policy of the State of Minnesota:

624.711 DECLARATION OF POLICY.

It is not the intent of the legislature to regulate shotguns, rifles and other longguns of the type commonly used for hunting and not defined as pistols or semiautomatic military-style assault weapons, or to place costs of administration upon those citizens who wish to possess or carry pistols or semiautomatic military-style assault weapons lawfully, or to confiscate or otherwise restrict the use of pistols or semiautomatic military-style assault weapons by law-abiding citizens (1).

I am a lifelong resident of Minnesota, and I was fortunate to have grown up in a family that valued the many outdoor opportunities that Minnesota's beautiful and abundant natural resources afford; among these was the use of firearms (rifles and shotguns) for hunting and sport shooting. Also, my dad was a member of the local police reserve, and we had his service revolver in the home. Some of my most vivid memories of growing up in Minnesota were hunting with my dad and grandparents. Firearms were a normal part of life and were used responsibly and safely, and I remember taking the DNR firearms safety class (taught by trained *volunteers* eager to pass on their passion for shooting sports) as soon as I was old enough. Firearms are tools; they were never something to be played with, but also not something to be feared.

As an adult, various responsibilities have prevented me from doing as much recreational shooting and hunting as I would like, and my interest in firearms lessened for a while. However, that changed dramatically during the summer of 2020, when local and state law enforcement proved unable, or worse, unwilling, to protect citizens and property from lawless rioters. For the first time in my life, I slept with a loaded shotgun next to my bed, fearing the worst. Those events sparked a renewed interest in firearms, especially for self-defense. What HF 3433 and HF 3402 will do, more than anything, is remove the ability of citizens to protect themselves and their families, by arbitrarily restricting the tools we can use. This is supreme hypocrisy from lawmakers who demonize law enforcement and yet authorize taxpayer dollars to fund additional armed security for themselves (2, 3).

Furthermore, the language of HF 3433 is broad enough to encompass virtually all semi-automatic rifles and shotguns, which are commonly used for lawful purposes beyond self-defense, like

hunting and sport shooting. Even more troubling, both bills effectively confiscate property: firearms upon the owner's death (HF 3433), and magazines outright (HF 3402), with no provision for compensating current owners or even allowing them to be sold, with felony-level penalties as an added insult, for simple *possession*. This will negatively affect me and virtually every Minnesota gunowner, since these firearms and magazines are extremely common.

Because they intend to outlaw overwhelmingly ordinary, commonplace firearms and magazines, these bills come across as a cynical, direct attack on Minnesotans who lawfully own and use firearms for the natural right of self-defense, for hunting, for sport shooting, and even merely collecting. These bills appear to be the products of legislators who have no understanding of firearms, and therefore fear these inanimate tools. They violate Minnesota's own firearms policy and go against the long tradition of lawful firearms use in this state. These bills should not be allowed to advance in the legislative process.

Sincerely,

John L. Lewin

References

1. Office of the Revisor of Statutes. *624.711 Declaration of Policy*. <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/624.711>, accessed February 20, 2026.
2. Reeve, Richard. "Some politicians visiting the Minnesota State Fair using private security." KSTP.com. <https://kstp.com/kstp-news/top-news/some-politicians-visiting-the-minnesota-state-fair-using-private-security/>, August 21, 2025.
3. Kelley, Cait. "Here's what to expect from new security measures at the Minnesota State Capitol." MPR News. <https://www.mprnews.org/story/2026/02/15/new-security-measures-at-minnesota-state-capitol-what-visitors-need-to-know>, February 15, 2026.

February 23, 2026

Ellen McDaniel – Committee Administrator
DFL Caucus
St. Paul, MN 55125

Dear Ellen,

I am writing this testimonial letter as my opposition to both House Bills HF3433 Semi-Automatic Rifle Ban and HF3402 Total Ban on Possession of Magazines holding more than 10 rounds.

As a life-long resident of Minnesota and a 30-year Certified Firearms Safety Instructor with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, I have never witnessed such overreach in the name of safety. These bills will do nothing but penalize the law-abiding Citizen. As you know, these bills are broadly unenforceable according to the 2nd Amendment and the 4th Amendment of our great United States Constitution. It is absolutely ill-logical to believe that government overreach would be accepted by our Citizens when possible warrantless search and seizures would need to be done to every home in Minnesota to collect semi-auto firearms and magazines holding more than 10 rounds. As an avid outdoorsman, myself and my family are law-abiding citizens who own and routinely use many firearms for hunting and recreational shooting that would fall into the categories defined under these bills. My entire family are legal carry-permit holders who exercise our constitutional rights to self-defense and to use the firearm of our choice therein.

It hurts me to assert that my home State has become a national embarrassment by illegal fraudsters at the hands of reckless politicians stealing billions in taxpayer dollars. These bills demonstrate a sheer loss of confidence and demonstrate a staggering inability to bring this long dark nightmare in Minnesota to an end.

In conclusion, I am opposed to these bills and they must be retracted immediately!!

Respectfully submitted,

John Miller
15628 Hayes Court
Apple Valley, MN 55124

House bill HF 3433

Rep. Emma Greenman

I am writing to voice my opposition to this bill as a Minnesota resident and a certified firearms instructor and range safety officer. Semi-automatic firearms (rifles or pistols) should not be banned for law abiding Minnesotans.

Banning any kind of firearm in hopes of preventing criminal misuse is a fallacy which is proven every time a firearm is used criminally. Laws ONLY affect the law-abiding.

Minnesotans use semi-automatic firearms every day for lawful purposes such as hunting, recreational shooting, competitive shooting, and self-defense.

What a firearm looks like or how it operates does not make it more or less “dangerous” than another type of firearm.

Remember, laws only affect the law-abiding.

John Onnen
308 10th St SE
Barnesville, MN 56514

Jonathan Drews

February 23, 2026

- HF 3433: A ban on the possession of most semi-automatic rifles
- HF 3402: A total ban on the possession of magazines holding more than ten rounds

House Public Safety Committee,

I am writing today to express great concern regarding the two aforementioned House Files. These House Files would literally turn thousands of law abiding citizens into criminals. I vehemently oppose passage of both these bills.

But first I would like to address the fact these bills would essentially strip lawful gun owners of their Constitutional rights under the Second Amendment. That said, these bills are illegal under our Constitution.

I have received instruction on laws related to concealed carry and do possess a valid carry permit. I have also taken and instructed firearm safety. I am a law abiding citizen.

I practice safe handling and storage of my firearms. I abide by all posted rules at the firearm range. My firearms are used for lawful purpose. The surrendering of my firearms would make me vulnerable to a criminal breaking into my home or defending myself and my dogs from a rabid animal on my property.

Criminals have no regard for gun control laws. New laws would not change the behavior of those with criminal intent. I would submit there are very adequate laws on the books presently to address illegal possession of a firearm by a felon or anyone with criminal intent. What does need to be done is to enforce the existing laws and prosecute those in violation of the existing laws.

Respectfully,

Jonathan Drews

Sincerely yours,

Sender Name

To the members of the House Public Safety Committee,

HF 3433 and HF 3402 are some of the most egregious second amendment violations both the state of Minnesota and the United States has ever seen. Both of these bills place unnecessary restrictions on firearms and magazines that are in common use by law-abiding citizens nationwide, myself included. Both bills would also cause financial hardship, many people who would be affected by these bills have invested thousands of dollars into items that would be banned or restricted. Additionally, HF 3433 likely violates the fourth amendment by forcing law abiding citizens to allow law enforcement into their homes without a warrant or evidence of any crime committed.

Stricter firearms controls have been proven ineffective at increasing public safety across the nation. These bills will only serve to restrict law-abiding citizens while they will be ignored by criminals. I implore you to reject these bills outright. The rights of every Minnesotan are at stake.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Korinek

I oppose the two anti-gun Bills, HF3433 possession of most Semi-automatic rifles and HF3402 a ban of magazines holding more than 10 rounds.

I believe that the Constitution Second Amendment clearly allows me to not partially, but fully exercise my right to bear arms and those magazines that make it unlimited operationally. These rights should not be infringed in any way.

I have had my home burglarized twice and had a family member murder in a home burglary. Being limited in my mobility, I need to have access to the gun of my choice and unlimited ammunition magazine to stop the threat on my family.

Jonathan Lindquist

Fridley, MN 55432

Josh Bugbee
Carver, Minnesota

February 23, 2026

Members of the House Public Safety Committee
Minnesota House of Representatives
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair and Members of the House Public Safety Committee,

I am writing as a Minnesota constituent and strong supporter of the Second Amendment to respectfully oppose HF 3433 and HF 3402.

These bills would ban commonly owned semi-automatic firearms and standard-capacity magazines that are widely used by law-abiding citizens for self-defense, sport, and hunting. At the same time, they provide exceptions for law enforcement, allowing them to continue possessing the very items that would be prohibited for ordinary citizens.

Creating a separate standard for government officials undermines the core principle behind the Second Amendment—that the right to keep and bear arms belongs to the people. Constitutional rights should not depend on one's employment status. If a firearm or magazine is considered appropriate for law enforcement, it should not be deemed inappropriate for responsible, law-abiding citizens.

Public safety is critically important, but broad bans that primarily impact compliant gun owners are not the right solution. I urge you to vote no on HF 3433 and HF 3402.

Thank you for your time and service.

Sincerely,
Josh Bugbee

I am writing to express my strong opposition to HF 3402 and HF 3433. As a law-abiding Minnesotan, these bills would have a direct and deeply negative impact on me, my family, and many responsible firearm owners across our state.

HF 3402 would impose a total ban on the possession of magazines capable of holding more than ten rounds, with no grandfathering provision. This means that individuals who legally purchased standard-capacity magazines in full compliance with the law would suddenly be forced to destroy them, surrender them to law enforcement, or move them out of state. These are not unusual or specialized items—they are standard equipment for many commonly owned firearms. Criminalizing possession of property that was legally acquired does not target criminal behavior; it punishes responsible citizens who have followed the law.

HF 3433 goes even further by banning the sale, transfer, and possession of nearly all semi-automatic rifles. While it includes limited grandfathering, it prohibits any future transfer, effectively ensuring these lawfully owned firearms cannot even be passed down to family members. Requiring a certificate at an unspecified cost and allowing warrantless home inspections for “safe storage” raises serious concerns about privacy and constitutional protections. Additionally, restricting these firearms to the home or licensed firing ranges and prohibiting their use for hunting removes longstanding lawful uses that many Minnesotans rely on for sport, recreation, and putting food on the table.

Both bills place heavy burdens on individuals who have done nothing wrong. They focus on restricting tools owned by law-abiding citizens rather than addressing the root causes of violent crime. Sweeping bans and broad criminalization risk turning responsible gun owners into technical violators overnight, while those who already ignore the law are unlikely to be deterred.

I believe we can pursue public safety measures that target violent offenders and illegal activity without infringing on the rights of responsible Minnesotans. I respectfully urge you to oppose HF 3402 and HF 3433.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

What is being proposed is a drastic and dramatic attack on Minnesotans constitutional rights. Gun control laws targeting law abiding citizens seeks only to embolden criminals in a state that already does not take criminal prosecution of violent offenders seriously. The proposed ban on semi automatic rifles and magazine capacity restrictions will do nothing to lessen the violence on the streets of our communities and will further destroy your citizens abilities to defend themselves. Furthermore this rule goes against supreme court case law New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc. v. Bruen. Laws like this have no place in Minnesota. The 2nd ammendment guarantees the rest. Do not allow this to pass.

HF-3402 & HF-3433

Dear Committee Members-

As you are aware, the DFL intends to introduce widespread damaging legislation to the House Public Safety Committee the very first day that they hold the gavel in this session.

HF 3433- Is a broad ban on the possession of nearly all semi-automatic rifles. While there is very limited "grandfathering", a person would permanently lose the ability to transfer a firearm they now own.

HF 3402- A total ban on magazines which hold more than 10 rounds of ammunition. There is NO grandfathering contained within this proposal. We would be required to destroy, or surrender this property to law enforcement, permanently modify them, or move them out of the state of Minnesota.

The citizens of the state will be told that these are "minor" regulatory tweaks which is NOT the case at all. The new legislation proposals are direct widespread attacks on the most commonly owned and popular firearms in Minnesota as well as the country. There are literally hundreds of thousands of law abiding Minnesotans that own the types of firearms and standard capacity magazines which this legislation proposes to make the possession of illegal.

I personally own multiple AR-15 style 22 caliber rifles that I use to shoot in competition, and also for the purpose to legally hunt in the state of Minnesota. No such firearm has ever been used in a publicized mass shooting. Additionally, the types of firearms falling within the grasp of this new legislation are in widespread and common usage by tens of thousands of citizens within the state to hunt predators, and both small & big game. These types of firearms would all be banned under the proposed legislation, would require me to register and re-certify every three years, as well as force me to allow my home to be searched by law enforcement, OR be a criminal.

Please do NOT support this legislation.

KEITH CEKALLA
34455 Blackfoot St NW
Cambridge, MN 55008

Opposing MN Proposed bills HF3433 & HF3402

To: MN House Public Safety Committee

Today I am writing in opposition of these 2 bills and urging my elected officials on both sides to do the same. Here's who I am and why:

I am a lifelong MN resident, mom to 4 adults and grandmother to 2 babies. A born & raised Unitarian-Universalist, with 2 Master degrees, an HR professional and I am not a gun owner. That is important for you to know.

I do have many family and friends who are gun owners and I believe in preserving their rights.

Why I am opposing these bills and believe you should as well:

- The expansion of felony law aimed at peaceful possession of what are widely owned, mainstream items with an exemption for Federal Agents and Law Officers to still possess the AR15 and magazines with more than 10 rounds. THIS is not okay and presents a huge problem to our balance of power, as noted in the 2nd amendment.
 - When the Government reserves certain arms for itself and prohibits the people from the same, this fundamentally shifts the balance of power between people and state.
 - A lawfully armed citizenry creates and maintains a structural check against tyranny. This alone is enough to stop these bills.
- I care about constitutional limits of power. After the last 2 months in MN, we experienced the push of tyranny that I strongly oppose.
- Normal law abiding citizens should not become felons for owning normal things. Making someone a felon based on a common items configuration feature or magazine capacity is wrong.
 - These bills will NOT stop violent offenders, persons intent on causing violent harm or repeat offenders.
 - They would NOT have prevented what happened at the Ascension school or other mass shootings as those people are not law abiding in their actions. It's a false premise that this addresses violent behaviors.
 - The idea that a law officer could enter my home/any home of a lawful gun owner without a warrant is a problem & violation of power, creating fear and tyranny. Never mind an unknown "fee" to the homeowner and no standard on what is "safe & secure" storage. This will also target those with the most police contact primarily minorities and poor persons in our communities.

- A true abuse of power that does Nothing to Prevent Violent Crimes!!!
- Public safety matters. Expanding felonies for peaceful possession of mainstream items does not address violent offenders. It only increases power of government and it changes the relationship between citizens and state in a harmful way. For these reasons it must be stopped.

Please please STOP these bills and do NOT pass HF3433 and HF3402.

Sincerely

Kelley Loughrey

Tom Shrake

Hello,

As a law abiding citizen, life-long sportsman, and second amendment enthusiast I oppose HF 3433 and HF 3402. These bills are precisely the "infringement" that the Second amendment was written to protect against. These bills are a tremendous usurpation of authority. The passage of these bills will turn law abiding citizens into criminals just for possessing tools and equipment that enable Minnesotans to engage in their preferred and LAWFUL activities of sporting, hunting, and most importantly the right to self defense.

By restricting the liberty and freedoms of law-abiding citizens, you are only emboldening and empowering criminals and law-breakers. All the bad things that can be accomplished with guns are already illegal. It is not the guns that are the problem, but the criminals who must be held accountable for their crimes.

As a local leader focused on the well-being of southern Minnesota, I believe that it is crucial to reject these bills as they are destructive for Minnesotans who engage in the LAWFUL activities of sporting, hunting, and self defence.

Sincerely,

Kevin Amundson

City of Zumbrota, *Councilman*

Redemption City Church, *Elder*

To the MN House Committee on Public Safety

Re: HF 3433 and 3402

This proposed legislation is completely unserious.

- 1) Would the DFL also like to propose disarming law enforcement officers to the same degree?
- 2) Would the DFL likely stop at a 10-round ban, or “certain types” of firearms? When it comes to taking guns away, the answer is absolutely not. Look at the evidence, from the actions of their peers throughout Europe, Australia, and Canada.
- 3) Are gun bans working? What is also evident within the last six months, is that despite banning nearly all firearms in their nations, France, Australia, and Canada all suffered mass shootings at the hands of terrorists. Gun bans are ineffective and dangerous to the public who have been rendered unable to properly defend themselves in these situations.

Proposed gun bans are perennial in Minnesota. Unfortunately, the DFL has created in Minnesota a sanctuary state for *both* illegal immigrant felons and transgenderism—the latter of which has been a particularly strong correlation in many recent mass shootings. But the Left absolutely excuses violence by those on the far Left, then ignores the clear motivations of those killers, because it runs counter to the DFL’s preferred narratives. Meanwhile, the dangers they have stoke grow larger by the day. Instead of having a modicum of humility to reverse their rhetorical course, and possibly quell the violence, the DFL chooses instead to come after, once again, firearms.

The answer is *no*, from the thousands of rural communities and ten thousands of farmsteads across the state. We see what you’re trying to do to us, the lawful firearm owners who have not raised a violent finger, while your DFL-owned-and-operated cities have descended into chaos. DFL, get your own house in order before you tyrannize everyone else. Your policies have created the chaos and disorder, not any sort of firearm.

Earnestly,

Kevin Mason

02/23/2026

To whom it may concern,

This letter is regarding bills HF 3433 and HF 3402. I have series issues with the bills being proposed and how they affect the majority of gun owners in Minnesota.

The bill **HP 3433** – Is a bill to eliminate semi-automatic rifles. There are so many things wrong with this bill, but I will simply note the following, Semi-automatic rifles are the most common rifle sold, and we must have hundreds of thousands of these rifles in Minnesota. These rifles are utilized by a vast majority of the hunters in Minnesota, and we have a long-standing tradition of bringing up our children with the sport of hunting and passing down our rifles from generation to generation. Another very concerning item with this bill is allowing law enforcement to “inspect” your home without a warrant, have we forgot the Fourth Amendment and why our forefathers thought this would be so dangerous?

The bill **HF 3402** – Is another bill that will affects a vast majority of Minnesota gun owners, most pistols that are semi-compact, compact or full size have magazines that have over 10 rounds. These were all purchased legally by their owners and will cause legal gun owners to have to spend a great deal of money to replace magazines with the average cost of a pistol magazine being around \$50.

These two bills have serious issues. Throughout my life I’ve been an independent voter with a belief that you should vote for the best person regardless of the party but over this decade, I consistently see the DFL party going to extremes to affect the civil liberties we hold dear as Americans. During this decade the 1st, 2nd, 4th amendments have all been consistently stepped on.

I would note that my guns have never hurt anyone. If the goal is to reduce random gun violence, I would propose the legislative address the issues by funding:

1. Mental health programs
2. Increase funding to law enforcement related to gang and drug task forces. Drugs, their dealers, distributors, and gangs are the greatest cause of random gun violence.
3. Increase funding to the courts system, there is no reason for violent criminals and their cases to not be prosecuted within a reason time frame.
4. Tone down the hatred, people with different opinions that you don’t agree with are not evil, racist, Nazis, etc. As leaders, you must set an example for all.

In the long term these items will do more to meet your goals.

Sincerely Kevin Pikkaraine.

Dear Ellen,

I write this as a plea from a fellow citizen who wants the best for our state.

I oppose the below bills:

- HF 3433: A ban on the possession of most semi-automatic rifles
- HF 3402: A total ban on the possession of magazines holding more than ten rounds

Bottom line: these two bills are oversteps in legislative power on the American's liberty and makes the Minnesota public more vulnerable.

These two bills fundamentally are 1) unconstitutional in hindering the US constitution 2nd amendment and 2) violates the liberty of Americans.

On a personal note, ownership is fundamental for building responsibility and wisdom in citizens. When responsible citizens are restricted in exercising their liberty, it squanders the importance of assuming responsibility. This weakens the general public and makes them more vulnerable.

If the overall goal is to protect the vulnerable, removing the ownership of defense creates more vulnerable citizens.

I pray for the Lord's wisdom in considering the long-term consequences and what thinking is being incentivized.

Thank you,

Leah Lyon

Subject: Please Oppose Anti-Gun Bills

As a fellow Minnesotan, I urge you to OPPOSE HF 3433 and HF 3402 in your committee.

HF 3433 bans commonly owned gas-operated semiautomatic firearms and standard-capacity magazines, directly violating the Second Amendment's "common use" standard. The option to register firearms and be subjected to random home inspections violates the Fourth Amendment.

HF 3433 impacts law-abiding Minnesotans in many ways:

- Destroying or submitting firearms to law enforcement would result in significant financial loss.
- Moving firearms out of state would increase the cost and difficulty of using the firearm regularly. Locating the firearm out of state would preclude any defensive use of the firearm in Minnesota.
- Moving a firearm out of state for sale would also result in financial loss.
- There are sporting competitions (Examples: 3-gun; Precision Rifle Series) that utilize gas-operated semiautomatic firearms and 30-round magazines. Minnesotans would be unable to participate in these events due to HF 3433 and HF 3402. Purchasing a new competition gun would be forbidden.
- Hunting and pest control with a semiautomatic firearm would be prohibited. There is no provision for shooting on private land not owned by the firearm owner. Minnesotans commonly hunt and shoot on private land.
- There is no provision for grandfathering beyond the current owner. It is common to pass firearms down to family and friends. Forcing a Minnesotan to store Grandpa's gun out of state and drive there to shoot it is ridiculous.

HF 3402 sets arbitrary magazine capacity restrictions:

- Semi-automatic handguns frequently are sold with three magazines of a capacity that relates to the grip length of the firearm. Magazine capacities of 15 or 17 rounds are common.
- Massad Ayoob (former police officer, firearms and self-defense instructor) recommends a magazine capacity of 16-20 rounds for self-defense purposes.
- HF 3402 would require Minnesotans to dispose of existing magazines. Replacement magazines may have limited availability and may not function as reliably as the original magazines.
- Again, there are competitions (Example: NRL22) where a magazine capacity greater than 10 rounds is advantageous (12-15 round magazines are preferred).

These bills do nothing to address crime in our state, and only penalize law-abiding gun owners.

Focusing on the significant root causes of violent crime such as mental health issues, unsupervised use of antidepressant drugs, use of illegal drugs, social media influence, and gang activities would better serve Minnesotans.

Again, I urge you to OPPOSE HF 3433 and HF 3402.
Thank you.

2/23/2026

Ellen McDaniel,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to HF 3402 and HF 3433. While I understand that these bills are intended to address public safety, I believe they would do so at the expense of law-abiding citizens while failing to deter actual criminal activity.

Both proposals appear to place new restrictions and potential penalties on responsible gun owners who already follow the law. Criminals, by definition, do not comply with firearm regulations, and additional laws will not change that behavior. Instead, these measures risk turning ordinary, law-abiding Minnesotans into unintended offenders without addressing the individuals who commit violent crimes.

In addition, I am deeply concerned about the constitutional implications of these bills. The Second Amendment protects the right of Americans to keep and bear arms, and any legislation that restricts this right should be carefully scrutinized. HF 3402 and HF 3433 impose limitations that I believe conflict with both the spirit and the substance of that constitutional protection.

I urge you to reject these bills and to focus instead on policies that target violent criminals rather than responsible gun owners. Minnesota needs solutions that enhance public safety without undermining the rights of its citizens.

Thank you for your time and for your service to our state.

Sincerely,

Mark Shirley

Good morning,

I am writing to you today as a lifetime resident (31 years) of the great state of Minnesota, to express my strong opposition to HF-3433 and HF-3402. These bills will functionally serve no purpose except to disarm and place a significant financial burden on law-abiding citizens while also making us more vulnerable to federal overreach and not significantly reducing firearm-based crime and violence in the state. I had hoped that after the violence we've seen at the hands of poorly-trained, masked federal thugs in the streets of Minneapolis—*especially the summary execution of Alex Pretti for no other reason than that he was lawfully carrying a concealed pistol*—that our legislators would have their eyes opened to the fact that this is the exact sort of tyrannical government that the Second Amendment was originally written for, but it would appear that is not the case.

HF-3433 - Semi-Automatic Rifle Ban

This bill—while inclusive of a grandfathering clause—effectively renders the most popular firearms in the country illegal in the state after no more than one generation has passed. With no transfers being allowed, this bill creates a situation in which lawfully-possessed firearms in this state will have no future except being destroyed after the current owner either surrenders them or passes away. No inheritance, no ability to sell the gun out of state, nothing. It's a transparent attempt at a "slow-grab." Try to make people complacent by saying "no, you can keep your guns" when the end goal remains the same; the complete and total eradication of these firearms from the state. Not only that, but the fact that owners would then have to pay an unknown amount for a license to maintain these firearms *and* effectively surrender their Fourth Amendment rights by allowing law enforcement into their homes to "inspect the storage solution" (and, while they're at it, look for anything in plain sight that they can use to criminalize the person they're dealing with) is completely abhorrent to me. Both because of the financial burden and because it forces individuals to engage with law enforcement and allow them into their homes as a "preventative" measure. Law enforcement in this state has proven itself time and time again to be untrustworthy and often overzealous.

HF-3402 – Total Ban on Possession of Magazines holding more than 10 rounds

This bill is absurd on its face. Firearms fed from detachable box magazines can be reloaded in less than two seconds in most cases. Limiting the size of the magazines doesn't make them any less dangerous, and allowing for standard-capacity magazines does not make them any more dangerous. I have magazine-fed guns in my collection that run the gamut from a 1915-manufactured Colt 1911, to a brand-new PTR-91. Of all the magazine-fed guns I own, only two of them came with magazines that would comply with this bill. Every other one came with a magazine with capacities ranging from 15-30 rounds. This bill would force me to liquidate virtually every magazine in my entire firearm collection at a fraction of the price I would then need to pay in order to acquire "compliant" replacements. Yet again, this bill serves as a way to place financial burden on firearm ownership and make it unfeasible for low-income individuals in the state to arm themselves.

I'm honestly getting really tired of having to fight to maintain my firearms rights every single legislative session. Every year a swath of these bills get proposed and discussed, and every year we have to push back so that people in the House and Senate can't claim "overwhelming support" with a straight face. The 8th Circuit court has consistently ruled in favor of 2A groups whenever a bill gets passed, but it takes months, if not years, for them to review these cases, by which point significant damage is already done. If you want to go after firearm ownership as a concept, get an Amendment passed. I would still disapprove but at least it would be going through the proper channels/processes.

Mark Swam

e. mark.swam@gmail.com

p. +1(612) 865-4053

February 23, 2026

HF 3402 – Ban on Possession of Magazines / more than 10 rounds

I write this testimony in regards to the proposed legislation HF 3402.

Legal Minnesota gun owners do not have a history of contributing to violence in our state. HF 3402 would DO NOTHING to quell the “gun violence” coming out of the Minneapolis/ St.Paul metro area. Criminal do not and will not abide by or care about any gun control laws. Period.

These laws are all childish fantasies and magical thinking.

HF 3402 would greatly infringe on the right of Minnesotans to keep and bear arms. Putting a 10-round limit on magazines would preclude most common-use magazines already owned and used by legal gun owners. These are standard-capacity magazines, mind you. See the 2nd Amendment of the US Constitution for thought on this.

Giving law enforcement the ability to remove the thugs (that commit all the crimes) from the streets is what needs to be done. That, and making sure they STAY LOCKED UP, is the magic answer that will accomplish your stated goal of reducing “gun violence” in Minnesota.

“Gun Violence” is a misnomer for “Violence committed by Thugs with Guns”. Get the thugs off the streets. Simple answer.

Leave law abiding Minnesota gun owners alone.

Martin Wade
North Branch, MN

February 23, 2026

HF 3433 - Semi-Automatic Rifle Ban

I write this testimony in regards to the proposed legislation HF 3433.

Legal Minnesota gun owners do not have a history of contributing to violence in our state. HF 3433 would DO NOTHING to quell the “gun violence” coming out of Minneapolis, St. Paul, and the metro area et al. These degenerate criminals do not and will not abide by any gun control laws. Legal gun owners, however, are by and large eager to comply. Disarming legal gun owners is like banning cars because of the fact that some people can’t safely operate them.

HF 3433 would greatly infringe upon the rights of law-abiding gun owners by outlawing common in-use firearms.... Millions of them. Guns we’ve owned and collected for years (generation, too) instantly banned. Oh, but they’ll be “grandfathered” you say.... So what? That’s like a line out of a tired old nursery rhyme. Doesn’t fly with anybody!

Why don’t you concentrate on locking up these degenerate criminals that actually commit crimes with guns. Keep them locked up. Stop allowing corrupt judges from letting them out on bail. Stop corrupt judge from giving them lenient sentences in the first place.

Stop trying to infringe on the constitutional right of legal gun owners to own and bear arms. That is not the answer. Instead, make sure law enforcement can successfully get the thugs off the streets, and then make sure the courts can and will keep them locked away.

Martin Wade
North Branch, MN

Written Testimony to the Minnesota House of Representatives for the hearing of bills HF3433 and HF3402.

Michael Black, constituent of District 22/B, 2/23/2026

I am thoroughly opposed to both HF3433, a ban on semi-automatic rifles, and HF3402, a ban on magazines over ten rounds. My initial opposition to such a ban would be purely on a constitutional basis. The Constitution, and the plurality of contemporary decisions by the Supreme Court (In *United States v. Miller*, *v. Bruen*, and others) makes it clear that the right to own firearms and to bear them is an individual, personal right, one that is similarly important to that of free speech, due process and religious expression. In almost all cases, constitutional law preempts state law, and individual states go against common Constitutional law only at the peril of the Union itself.

A passing of a semi-automatic rifle ban would be against the text, history, and tradition of the Bill of Rights established at the founding of this country. Those enumerated rights must not be at any point limited by a jurisdiction's simple desire to alter or change them, they are not even rights that the Government itself has created. The ability to own tools and to defend yourself with those tools is fundamental to humans, as is the right to speak and the right to be heard. The power of the Constitution is not of creating these rights, but in making boundaries around these rights, across which The State must not cross.

The item of rhetoric that is most concerning surrounding such bills is no one needs to have these items. The Constitution was not built upon needs, it was built upon rights. I do not need to call my spouse every day, but I have the *right* to call my spouse every day, whether I need to or not. I do not have the need to take out advertisements in the paper, I will not perish if I cannot speak to my congressman, but I have the right to do all of these things. If we start considering the law in terms of needs, then a great many rights which have made our country prosperous would be abandoned. If one does not have the common sense to understand the difference, it would be difficult to argue that one should be in the business of writing law.

One may counter that this bill would not remove your ability to own "firearms", just remove your right to own "these firearms". Any portion of your right under a constitutional amendment should be treated as seriously as banning of the right as a whole. For example, any such limitation of the First Amendment would be no more rational. It would be similar to saying say that communication via electronic means would have been inconceivable to the founders, too fast and too modern, possibly could be dangerous for so many people to communicate so freely, and therefore, the Internet is not protected under the First Amendment. The founders, by this logic, would only have conceived of communication verbally or in print, so you have the right to communicate verbally or in print, but not via internet, and the telephone is on shaky ground. It would be as equally absurd as that.

Another common justification for these laws is that restricting such items to the general public will result in everyone becoming safer. I disagree that restricting of my ownership of property makes you safer. None of my firearms have ever shot anyone, removing them from my possession, or my neighbor's possession, will not make anyone safer; we will be just as safe before as we were after.

Furthermore, I argue that the denying of the right to own these weapons makes the law-abiding citizen and their community less safe. With these tools I, a law-abiding citizen, am able to defend myself and those around me to a greater ability than I would without them. It is clear to me that this bill only decreases safety. While a law banning these tools will keep law-abiding individuals from owning these weapons, will not restrict criminals from possessing them. The bureaucratic restriction on what kinds of weapons they can use to commit their crimes will be no deterrent at all. Additionally, the fact that criminals commit crime with these weapons should not create a barrier for me to own them: I should not be punished for the criminal actions of someone else.

The wording in these kinds of bills implies that these items are particularly unusual or particularly unsafe. But this just is not the case. These are not unusual or overtly dangerous weapons; They are commonly owned and used to protect lives.

There are tens of millions of Semi-automatic rifles in private ownership in United States, a vast majority of them owned by law-abiding citizens. Just by commuting from Minneapolis to St. Paul, you would be passing near by hundreds of semi-automatic weapons, in people's homes, in their vehicles, on their persons, and you would never know, see them or hear them: they are not inherently dangerous, many of you have spend your entire lives in close proximity to these weapons and have been entirely unhurt by them.

The final provision of this bill is that semi-automatic rifles would be “grandfathered” in, individuals who currently possess them could continue to do so, but they cannot transfer them to anyone else, and they must allow law enforcement into their homes in order to check on the safe storage of these items. This provision allows this bill to violate a grand total of two constitutional rights, not only in the second amendment, but also in the fourth amendment.

Many of my positions against HF3433 apply also to HF 3402, a ban on so called “high capacity magazines”. Additionally, I present that the usage of the term “high-capacity magazine” is a misrepresentation. A majority of firearms which accept a detachable magazine, sold for the last 30 years, have come standard with a magazine that is of greater than 10 rounds in capacity. There are millions and millions of these items in common use throughout the United States and in the state of Minnesota, and there is no common consensus that these items are particularly dangerous.

If your spouse or grandparent owns a Glock or Smith and Wesson or Beretta pistol, these with little exception, will have been issued with 15 to 18 round magazines. 20 to 30 round magazines came standard with many sporting rifles upon manufacture, and were designed with the use of these magazines in mind. Many, if not all, magazines which would be banned under this bill would be of a standard capacity, and the labeling of these magazines as “high capacity” would be a misnomer at best, and a deliberate misrepresentation of fact at worst.

Any such magazine ban would limit the average, law abiding citizen's ability to use legal weapons for their self defense, or hobby, or any other purpose protected by the Second Amendment.

There is more interest in private ownership of firearms now than in almost any time in U.S. History. By voting for these bills, you are unjustly depriving not only those who currently exercise those rights, but any who might seek to do so in the future. I urge all Minnesota lawmakers to vote against and publicly oppose these bills, and any bills with similar language.

- Michael Black

Dear Minnesota Lawmakers,

I am writing to you as a longtime resident of the Twin Cities, deeply concerned about the safety and security of our communities. I strongly oppose bills HF3433 and HF3402, which seek to restrict access to rifles used for home defense and commonly used ammunition magazines. These measures would undermine the ability of law-abiding citizens like myself to protect our homes and families in a city that has seen far too much unchecked violence in recent years.

Since moving to the Twin Cities a decade ago, I have been shocked and saddened at the rapid decline in the safety and quality of life in the region. I have seen firsthand the harassment and aggression from protestors who disrupted neighborhoods, blocked streets, and intimidated residents without consequence. Their actions often escalated into threats and property damage, leaving many of us feeling vulnerable in our own homes. Even more alarming were the George Floyd riots, where mobs looted businesses, set fires, and attacked innocent people across the Twin Cities. These events turned our streets into war zones, with law enforcement overwhelmed and unable to respond quickly enough to every call for help. In those terrifying moments, the need for effective home defense tools became painfully clear—tools that these bills would effectively ban.

What makes this situation even more infuriating is the role played by some Democrat lawmakers and pundits in encouraging this kind of behavior. We've seen high-profile figures in the party downplay the destruction, bail out arrested rioters through fundraising efforts, and even urge crowds to become "more confrontational". This rhetoric has emboldened extremists, leading to more harassment and violence, while ordinary Minnesotans are left to fend for themselves. How can we trust legislation from the same party that has fanned these flames, now trying to strip us of the means to defend against the very unrest they've helped foster?

These bills do nothing to address the root causes of crime or hold accountable those who incite disorder. Instead, they punish responsible gun owners who follow the law and simply want to protect their loved ones. Semi-automatic rifles and their magazines are essential for self-protection in these uncertain times. Passing HF3433 and HF3402 would only empower criminals and agitators further, while disarming the rest of us.

I urge you to vote no on these misguided bills and prioritize real solutions that enhance public safety for all Minnesotans. Our communities deserve better.

Sincerely,
Michael Kiscaden

Robbinsdale, MN

February 24, 2026

House Public Safety Committee

Re: HF 3433: A ban on the possession of most semi-automatic rifles
HF 3402: A total ban on the possession of magazines holding more than ten rounds

Dear Members of the House Public Safety Committee

ASSAULT WEAPON CANARD

Rep. Emma Greenman’s bill, a so-called assault weapons ban doesn’t comport with reality and will ultimately not stop murders in this state.

In Minnesota, most murders committed with a firearm are committed with a hand gun. You are **FIVE times** more likely to be murdered with a **KNIFE** than with a **RIFLE of ANY kind**, much less a so-called “assault weapon.”

The Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) collects crime data from local law enforcement throughout Minnesota. The BCA’s Crime Data Explorer is a valuable tool for those interested in analyzing a variety of data. Focusing on the “assault-styled rifle” debate, an analysis of data surrounding murders in Minnesota over the past five years (January – August*) reveals the following:ⁱ

- There has been an average of 114.4 murders/year*
- There has been an average of 81.8 murders/year* involving all forms of firearms (pistols, shotguns, rifles).
- **Just 2.8 murders/year* have involved a rifle. This equates to 2.4% of all murders.** (Note: BCA data does not specify “assault-style rifles” however, the rifle category is the most likely category to encompass the style of rifles most commonly referred to as assault-style rifles).
- **By comparison, nearly the same percentage of murders have occurred as a result of blunt force trauma each year* (2.2%) as have occurred with a rifle (2.4%).**
- **There have been nearly six times as many murders carried out with a knife (12.4%) as have been carried out with a rifle (2.4%).**

Banning assault-style rifles: information to guide the debate. Written by David Zimmer, *Center of the American Experiment*, September 25, 2025.

By the way. Canada’s recent Firearms Buyback Program is epic fail. Not only are most Canadians failing to comply, even some of the provincial law enforcement agencies refuse to enforce the ban.

...As proposed, the confiscation of firearms and devices that were banned as “prohibited” by Trudeau’s Liberal government over four years ago was to have been underway by now. Public Safety Canada’s website on the program titled the “Firearms Buyback Program Overview” (last

updated 2023-07-26), continues to state that a “staged implementation is planned, with the collection of business stock beginning before the end of the year, and to get started with individual collection in the second half of 2023.”

Several provinces have already ruled out entirely (here and here, for instance) any possibility that their law enforcement resources could be used to implement the confiscation of the banned firearms and devices. One provincial official’s position was characteristic of the spirit of this opposition, stating, “[w]e do not and will not support initiatives that only impact the law abiding, RCMP vetted, hunters, sport shooters, ranchers, farmers and others who use firearms for lawful and good reasons... we will not authorize the use of provincially funded resources of any type for the federal government’s ‘buy back’ program.”...

Canada’s Gun Buyback Program Already an Epic Fail. *The Truth about Guns*, August 13, 2024

BANNING HIGH CAPACITY MAGAZINES IS AN EXERCISE IN FUTILITY

Rep. Brad Tabke’s bill banning possession of magazines that hold more 10 rounds denies reality. There are literally 100s of millions of high capacity pistol and rifle magazines **legally** possessed in the United States. Most pistol manufacturers provide two or more of these magazines with every pistol purchase. Banning them in Minnesota will make NO difference to individual’s intent on committing crimes.

Even if you could get all Minnesota gun owners to turn in their high capacity magazines— making every law-abiding citizen who keeps them a *de facto* felon—nature abhors a vacuum. Because they are easily concealed and transported, they would flow back into Minnesota, just like all the illegal drugs that are currently devastating our state.

Firearm Magazine Estimate 1990 – 2021					
	Pistol 10 below	Pistol 11+	Rifle 10 below	Rifle 11-29	Rifle 30+
Manufacturer Total	64,099,000	96,148,000	57,362,000	22,945,000	34,417,000
Consumer Market Total	110,694,000	112,997,000	13,717,000	37,441,000	413,952,000
Manufacturer and Consumer Totals	174,793,000	209,145,000	71,079,000	60,386,000	448,369,000
Grand Total: 963,772,000					

Source. Guns dot com

Just as example, under federal law, it is illegal to convert a firearm from semi-automatic to fully automatic fire **and so-called Glock switches are banned**. Yet they are routinely found in circulation in Minnesota. The following article shows how unserious our judicial system is in holding these law-breakers accountable.

...On June 3, Minneapolis Police Department officers executing a traffic stop encountered 18-year-old Amiir Mawlid Ali in a vehicle heading to the Edina High School graduation ceremony being held at the University of Minnesota campus in Minneapolis. According to the news report, Ali was

known to be “associated with multiple recent gang-related shootings and was known to carry firearms,” and officers found a GLOCK handgun under his seat. The gun was “equipped with a loaded 33-round extended magazine and a machinegun conversion device.” Officers were aware that an unrelated shooting during a graduation ceremony at the same university campus happened a few days before.

That shooting, at the May 30 Wayzata High School graduation ceremony, left two people injured, including a man shot in the head. Police used surveillance video to identify the alleged shooter and locate the suspect’s GLOCK handgun, which was equipped with a machinegun conversion device. The suspect was apprehended and reportedly faces state law charges of first-degree assault, second-degree assault, and possessing/operating a machine gun.

A news report provides the timeline following Ali’s apprehension by the MPD. After being booked into Hennepin County Jail on a weapons charge on June 3, he was set free on June 5, as soon as his 36-hour hold expired. (A search of the online Hennepin County jail roster confirms Ali was held without bail and released on June 5 at 4:40 PM.)

The next day, June 6, police responded to a shooting at another high school graduation ceremony, at or near Burnsville High School, in which multiple shots were fired but no one was injured. Ali was “among four people arrested following shots fired at the Burnsville graduation,” although the extent of his involvement is unclear. A news source includes an additional troubling allegation, citing court documents, that “in recorded jail calls following his arrest, Ali said he would need a ‘button’ – slang for a machine gun conversion device – upon his release.”...

“Why is Minnesota Suing GLOCK When Prosecutors Release Suspects Arrested With Illegal Machine Guns and Conversion Devices?” *Shooting News Weekly*, June 23, 2025

ELIMINATE CASHLESS BAIL AND STAYED OR SUSPENDED SENTENCES FOR GUN CRIMES

If they are not on the streets, they can’t commit more crimes. This is just common sense.

...A multi-time felon now charged in the June shooting homicide of Taleen Tanna in Minneapolis had two recent convictions that should have put him in prison, including a gun crime.

Instead, Laundelle Jackson, 34, received stayed prison sentences from Minnesota judges, leaving him free, in the latest case, just days before Tanna’s murder.

Tanna, 42, was shot in a drive-by shooting before 10 a.m. on Tuesday June 14, 2022, while she sat inside a recreational vehicle on the 1300 block of Girard Avenue North. Tanna suffered gunshot wounds to her head and neck and was pronounced dead at the scene...

Minneapolis murder suspect should have been sent to prison just days prior. At least two recent convictions should have landed Jackson in prison. By *Crime Watch MN and Alpha News*, July 21, 2022

VIGOROUSLY ENFORCE EXISTING LAWS AND MANDATORY SENTENCES FOR ANY CRIME COMMITTED WITH A GUN

Minnesota law:

...The legislature created statute 609.11 that mandates a minimum incarceration period for those who commit a crime with a gun — **3 years for the first offense, and 5 years for the second. This statute also eliminates eligibility for early release, ensuring that offenders who commit a crime with a gun are imprisoned under a mandatory minimum sentencing structure, with no possibility of probation, conditional release, or other early release.** According to the MSGC 2022 report to the legislature, despite intense media and political pressure to address the rise in violent crime, the criminal justice system’s adherence to mandatory minimum sentencing has only worsened. ⁱⁱ

However...

From July 2020 through June 2021, there were 1,074 cases allegedly involving a firearm. After charging decisions, trials, pleas, and other processes, only 534 qualified for the mandatory minimum sentencing. Of those 534, only 297 received a mandatory minimum sentence. **In other words, only 27% of offenders who were alleged to have committed an offense with a firearm received the mandated minimum sentencing,** and only 55% of offenders who ultimately qualified for minimum sentencing received it. (ibid) [emphasis added]

In the case of the Boom Island shooter where “six people were shot, one fatally, and police recovered over 130 spent casings in the park...

“The Hennepin County District Court had four opportunities to incapacitate Porter. **In each case he showed utter disregard for the law, but each time, he was given outrageously lenient sentences.** He was taught, in no uncertain terms, that there are no consequences to crime. How often do we hear of the need to get serious about gun-related violence? **Here was a young man with two firearms-related offenses before the age of 22, and the court simply wet the bed. Honestly, what did the court expect would happen?**

The Boom Island mass shooter and a court system that has failed us all. David Zimmer, *Center of the American Experiment*, July 1, 2025.

REAL SOLUTIONS ARE NOT PHONY BANS... WE DON'T NEED MORE GUN CONTROL... WE NEED MORE SELF-CONTROL. And we need to hold people who commit gun crimes accountable.

Sincerely,

Michael J Walt
2661 Eldridge Ave E
North St Paul, MN 55109
Email: cyn_du_nord@comcast.net

Mickey A. Cupkie, MBA, MS

JTTF Group

PO Box 222

Biwabik, MN 55708-0222

jttfgroup@proton.me

208.270.0693

February 23, 2026

Ellen McDaniel

Committee Administrator – DFL Caucus

520 State Office Building

100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Memorandum of Record for Opposing MN HF 3402 and 3433

Dear Committee Administrator McDaniel:

I am writing to formally express my strong opposition to Minnesota House Files 3402 and 3433, currently under consideration. As a Minnesota resident, data analytics professional, and former United States Army officer in the Minnesota National Guard, I approach this issue through the lenses of empirical evidence, systems-level policy analysis, and constitutional law.

HF 3402 proposes a categorical ban on the possession, transfer, manufacture, and importation of ammunition feeding devices capable of holding more than 10 rounds, while imposing felony penalties for noncompliance (Minnesota House of Representatives, 2024a). HF 3433 similarly imposes restrictions on a broad class of semiautomatic firearms, including commonly owned platforms, along with registration, storage, and transfer limitations (Minnesota House of Representatives, 2024b). Both bills rely on expansive and ambiguous definitions that risk inconsistent enforcement and public confusion.

From an empirical standpoint, the evidence supporting these policies remains limited. A comprehensive review conducted by the RAND Corporation found **inconclusive evidence** regarding the effectiveness of large-capacity magazine bans and assault weapon bans in reducing violent crime or mass shootings (RAND Corporation, 2020). Similar conclusions have been reached in peer-reviewed literature, which consistently finds insufficient causal evidence linking such bans to measurable public safety improvements (Koper et al., 2018).

Additionally, research on defensive gun use suggests that firearms are used by civilians for self-defense with notable frequency. While estimates vary, even conservative analyses indicate hundreds of thousands of defensive uses annually (Kleck & Gertz, 1995; RAND Corporation, 2020). Policies that restrict commonly owned firearms and standard-capacity magazines may disproportionately impact lawful self-defense, particularly in rural areas where law enforcement response times are longer.

From a constitutional perspective, these bills raise serious concerns. In *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen* (2022), the Supreme Court reaffirmed that firearm regulations must be consistent with the historical tradition of firearm regulation and cannot infringe upon weapons “in common use” for lawful purposes. The firearms targeted in HF 3433, such as AR-15 pattern rifles, have been produced in the tens of millions and are among the most owned firearms in the United States (National Shooting Sports Foundation, 2023). Likewise, magazines holding more than 10 rounds are standard components on many widely owned firearms. These are not unusual or dangerous outliers; they are ubiquitous.

Beyond legal and empirical concerns, these proposals would have meaningful economic consequences for Minnesota. Hunting, sport shooting, and firearm-related recreation contribute significantly to the state’s economy through license sales, tourism, and retail activity. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, hunting-related expenditures alone generate substantial economic output and support thousands of jobs (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2022). Restrictions on commonly used firearms and equipment would likely reduce participation, disrupt small businesses, and negatively affect rural communities.

Furthermore, the lack of regulatory conformity with neighboring states introduces additional complications. Minnesota residents frequently travel across state lines for hunting and shooting activities. Divergent legal frameworks increase compliance burdens and heighten the risk of unintentional violations, particularly when commonly owned equipment is restricted in one jurisdiction but remains legal in others.

From a policy design perspective, these bills risk misallocating enforcement resources. Criminal actors disproportionately obtain firearms through illicit means and are unlikely to comply with regulatory prohibitions (Cook et al., 2015). As a result, these measures primarily affect law-abiding citizens while offering limited to no deterrent value. This creates a disconnect between policy intent and real-world outcomes.

Finally, the breadth of firearm classifications in HF 3433, particularly those based on features rather than function, introduces ambiguity that complicates enforcement and undermines legal clarity. Such ambiguity increases the likelihood of inconsistent application and legal challenges.

Given these concerns, I respectfully urge abandoning HF 3402 and HF 3433. Effective public safety policy must be grounded in demonstrable outcomes, constitutional consistency, and practical enforceability. At present, these proposals fall short on all three criteria.

I strongly urge the committee to reject these bills in their current form and instead pursue targeted, data-driven approaches that address the root causes of violence while preserving the rights of law-abiding citizens.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Mickey A. Cupkie, MBA, MS
JTTF Group

Subject: Opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402

Dear Legislators,

I am writing to express strong opposition to **HF 3433** and **HF 3402**, two bills that impose sweeping restrictions on law-abiding Minnesotans without delivering measurable public-safety benefits.

HF 3433 would ban possession of semiautomatic “military-style” firearms based on cosmetic features rather than function, despite the bill itself acknowledging the definition is built around external characteristics like folding stocks, shrouds, and detachable magazines rather than mechanical lethality. These types of firearms are *commonly owned* and used responsibly across the state, yet HF 3433 would criminalize existing owners and require certification, restrictive storage mandates, and eventual surrender of their property. [\[track.mn\]](#) [\[billtrack50.com\]](#)

HF 3402 would ban standard magazines holding more than ten rounds, even though the bill confirms these items come factory-standard for many commonly used firearms. It mandates that current owners must either surrender, permanently modify, or remove their magazines from Minnesota by statutory deadlines. This approach punishes lawful citizens while providing exemptions for government agencies—without evidence that such restrictions meaningfully reduce crime. [\[billtrack50.com\]](#)

Both bills create new felony offenses for peaceful Minnesotans who purchased their firearms and accessories legally and have never misused them. They would also burden law enforcement with the near-impossible task of policing cosmetic firearm classifications and magazine capacity, redirecting limited resources away from targeting violent offenders. [\[billtrack50.com\]](#), [\[billtrack50.com\]](#)

Instead of criminalizing responsible ownership, Minnesota should invest in evidence-based public-safety strategies such as mental-health resources, enforcement against prohibited possessors, and efforts to disrupt violent-offender networks.

For these reasons, I urge you to reject **HF 3433** and **HF 3402** and support approaches that improve safety without infringing on the rights of responsible Minnesotans.

Respectfully,
Roger Skic

To: House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee

From: Nicholas Braun

Date: February 23, 2026

Subject: **OPPOSITION to HF 3433 and HF 3402**

Dear Chair Moller, Vice Chair Feist, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to you as a concerned Minnesotan and a responsible firearm owner to express my strong opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402. While the stated goal of these bills is to improve public safety, they represent a dangerous overreach that targets law-abiding citizens while failing to address the actual drivers of violence.

I urge the committee to reject these measures based on the following critical points:

1. A Vital Check Against Authoritarianism

The Second Amendment was not written to protect hunting or sport; it was written to ensure that the ultimate sovereignty of the state remains with the people. A free republic requires a decentralization of power. By seeking to ban the most effective modern tools for self-defense, the Legislature effectively grants the government a monopoly on force. History has shown that when a government becomes vindictive or authoritarian (like it is right now), it first seeks to disarm those it intends to suppress. We must maintain the right to bear arms as a permanent deterrent against the current and any future administration that might seek to use the machinery of the state to persecute political rivals or infringe upon civil liberties. **We've seen it happening first-hand in Minnesota over the last few months.**

2. Infringement on Constitutional Rights

HF 3433 targets firearms that are in "common use" across the country. Under the standards established by the Supreme Court in *Heller* and *Bruen*, these bans are likely unconstitutional. Passing these bills will subject the State of Minnesota to years of expensive, taxpayer-funded litigation without providing any measurable increase in public safety. Criminals, by definition, do not follow these laws; only peaceful citizens will be rendered defenseless.

3. Government Overreach and Privacy

The registration and mandatory storage inspection provisions in these bills represent an unprecedented intrusion into the private lives of Minnesotans. Requiring citizens to pay for certificates and potentially opening their homes to government "verification" treats law-abiding residents like suspects. A government that distrusts its peaceful citizens to this degree has lost sight of its role as a servant of the people. Allowing law enforcement to search under the guise of "safe firearm storage inspection" will be wildly weaponized as a reason to unlawfully search our

homes. Minnesota already a robust process for obtaining controlled firearms and penalties for unlawful storage.

Legislation that prioritizes the "ease" of policing over the fundamental liberties of the people is the hallmark of a declining republic. I urge you to respect the intelligence and the sovereignty of the Minnesotans you represent. We are not a threat to be managed; we are a free people who refuse to be rendered defenseless against either the common criminal or the potential for a vindictive government.

I respectfully ask that you vote **NO** on HF 3433 and HF 3402. Let us focus on solutions that target violent offenders and address the socioeconomic root causes of crime rather than restricting the rights that protect all others. Criminals who commit crimes with firearms should be severely punished, but arbitrarily capping magazines at 10 rounds or trying to come up with some sort of enforceable definition of an "assault rifle" is a complete waste of your time and the taxpayer's dollars.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Braun
4127 Xerxes Ave S
Minneapolis, MN
937-681-1077

Dear Representative McDaniel,

I am writing to you to provide written testimony for the upcoming hearing on HF 3402 (restriction on magazine size) and HF 3433 (restriction on sale/transfer of semi automatic rifles). I am a resident of Duluth, Minnesota and a law-abiding gun owner.

As a person who is generally aligned with progressive/socialist ideologies, I am disheartened that DFL representatives are bringing these bills forward at this time instead of focusing their energy where it is truly needed. Minnesota is healing from a violent federal occupation. ICE and Donald Trump pose an imminent and substantial threat to Minnesotans, law-abiding gun owners do not. In addition to my discontent with the timing of this legislation, I take specific issue with these bills for the following reasons:

-These bills will have a disproportionately negative effect on lower-income Minnesotans. It would be easy for wealthy individuals to bypass these restrictions by shifting their legal primary residence to a neighboring state without similar restrictions, I do not have the means to do that. Additionally, the magazine capacity restriction would force me to go out and buy all new magazines for my firearms (every one I own currently holds more than 10 rounds) and I cannot afford to do so at this time.

-These bills do nothing to address the root causes of gun violence. Increasing access to mental health resources, amongst other things, would go a long way towards making Minnesotans safer. These bills are just window dressing towards that end and would not provide any real additional safety.

Thank you for taking the time to review my opinions on these bills.

Best regards,

Nicholas Sandin

As a lifelong resident of Minnesota, I am writing to express my opposition to HF 3453 and HF 3402.

HF 3453 – Semi Automatic Rifle Ban

This bill is a total ban on the sale, transfer, and possession of almost all semi-automatic rifles in Minnesota.

There is grandfathering applicable to the current owner only with no transfers allowed.

A certificate must be obtained at an unknown cost, law enforcement must inspect your home for “safe storage” whenever they want without a warrant, and the firearm can only be kept at home or at a “licensed firing range”.

Hunting with such firearms is prohibited.

This egregious bill had the potential to make a Minnesota resident owner of a presently legal firearm a felon with penalties greater than those for many violent offenses. This is outrageous!

Do you really think that criminals will now turn in prohibited weapons and turn away from a life of crime?

And now to allow warrantless inspections of gun owners homes – Our Founding Fathers must be turning over in their graves at this one.

A great many peaceful innocent people will be hurt by this bill should it become law.

HF 3402 : Total ban on magazines holding more than 10 rounds

This bill is a total ban on the manufacture, sale, transfer, and possession of all firearm magazines capable of holding more than ten rounds.

There is no grandfathering.

Magazines must be destroyed, turned into law enforcement, or moved out of state by July 1st, 2026.

How can something a peaceful law-abiding gun owner received with his or her lawfully purchased firearm suddenly become illegal? The bill offers no provision for grandfathering in ownership of those magazines, those standard capacity magazines must be turned over to the authorities. Amazing!

These bills are wrong and must not become law.

Norman Hauschildt

I am writing to strongly oppose HF 3433 and HF 3402.

From a young age, I started hunting, fishing and target shooting with my dad and late grandfather. They are family traditions that have been passed down for generations. These bills would directly impact both me, several family members, friends, and connections I've met through the outdoor sports. I am also a part of an indoor league and competitions, that if these bills passed would significantly impact. I would be unable to participate, and that is something that besides the rights being taken away, would very negatively affect my wellbeing.

Being a part of the outdoors and shooting sports community is about all I have, after struggling to find my belonging. I have been welcomed in, and taught things I never would've learned without the support.

Please oppose these bills. They're unconstitutional and based on other states, they don't work.

February 23, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

I write today in opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402. These proposals are heinous in both scope and burden on lawful owners in the state of Minnesota. Not only are they unconstitutional, but they represent a burden on lawful citizens. Government has no right to restrict these firearms and magazines in common usage for decades. We see these proposals time and time again, but they only affect lawful owners and will do nothing to decrease crime in Minnesota. In fact, they would likely create thousands of new “criminals” who consciously object to these infringements.

These proposals would force people to destroy their own property. Property that they lawfully purchased. Property that thousands of Minnesota residents lawfully own and use. These proposals are a waste of time and money and the enforcement of these proposals is likely impossible.

Andrew Klein

Mantorville, MN

Dear Ms. Ellen McDaniel,

Thank you for your earnestness in keeping the people of Minnesota safe. HF 3433 and HF 3402 is a direct infringement of the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and detrimental to the strength of the citizens of the United States of America.

Once accountability is taken away from the individual and given to another individual or entity, there is no incentive or obligation to adhere to a standard of morality. Each individual is responsible for the choices they make, whether they be good or bad. Consequences will follow any decision or action just as Effect will always follow a Cause.

These Bills will take accountability away from the individual and ruin the opportunity for consequence and possible positive redemption. This weakens the American people to the core and reverses the intended purpose of the government set up for us at the birth of our great nation.

Taking away seemingly small specifics from the right to bear Arms, undermines and can ultimately destroy a free and Sovereign nation.

As you know good motherly advice, my mother would tell us that 'If we as a people outlaw guns and means of defense, only the Outlaws will have guns.' Every circumstance has its uniqueness, but none are above the law. Introducing bills and laws that weaken the people will only hurt law abiding citizens and create more outlaws who do not abide by the laws.

Thank you for taking the time to reconsider the long term ramifications of what these bills will do for this and future generations.

What doors will these bills open for a corrupt official who makes their way into a position of leadership in our country?

Why would these bills stop an attack from an outlaw who doesn't abide by the law anyway?

At the end of the day, the individual is held accountable for the misuse of any tool they utilize in any act of evil. The emphasis on the individual inflicting evil, not on the tool they used.

I will be praying for wisdom and guidance from the Lord God Almighty for you during this time and ask for His peace for you in the decision you make. Thank you for the position you hold and taking every matter with the utmost sincerity.

For Our Country,

Rachel Lyon

**Written Testimony
for
Minnesota House Public Safety Committee**

**Submitted from / by
RAM Defense LLC
(Justin Dragosani-Brantingham, MA, CI, President and Chief Instructor)
Warroad, MN**

- **HF 3433: A ban on the possession of most semi-automatic rifles**
- **HF 3402: A total ban on the possession of magazines holding more than ten rounds**

Committee Administrator Ellen McDaniel, ellen.mcdaniel@house.mn.gov, I respectfully submit the following:

- **Regardless of motive or reasoning, gun control is ILLOGICAL and statistics / metrics at numerous levels of granularity or aggregation PROVE that. Therefore, it appears to fact-based persons to be an emotional response that not only is WRONG but BAD both in its justification and effects.**
- **These restrictions place undue, arbitrary, criminalizing burdens on good citizens of Minnesota.**
- **Regardless of motive or reasoning, gun control in any form punishes and disables good people and rewards and enables evil-doers.**
- **Regardless of motive or reasoning, gun control violates the Constitutional (2nd and 4th Amendment rights), natural and Biblical rights.**
- **Regardless of motive or reasoning, gun control in any form is wicked.**
- **Simply put, these gun control bills violate liberty and law in pursuit of security.**
 - **Ben Franklin as part of the Pennsylvania Assembly in 1755, wrote to the Governor of Pennsylvania, “Those who would give up essential Liberty, to purchase a little temporary Safety, deserve neither Liberty nor Safety.”**
- **Liberty is without question the most treasured right and value of human existence, and it is formally enshrined, codified and protected in American and Minnesota law.**
 - **As such, it is deemed inviolate.**
- **Is tyranny—be it overt or covert—to be accepted and even promoted in American and Minnesota law?**
 - **We collectively find the idea repugnant.**
 - **We collectively have already endured much unconstitutional and / or unlawful and / or irrational laws, mandates, and / or rulings from the state of Minnesota in all three branches and protest the adding of any more.**
- **Regardless of motive or reasoning, contravening in matters of liberty and by extension personal responsibility in a free republic is wicked and a most serious attack on good citizens.**
 - **As the entirety of human history has proven time and again, when the people are oppressed enough, they will defend themselves, even through a justified and virtuous rebellion. Pray God we Minnesotans can avert that calamity!**
- **Slaves are not allowed to be freely armed, and we Minnesotans are by no means slaves!**
- **Thomas Jefferson wrote James Madison in 1787 *Malo periculosam, libertatem quam quietam servitutem* “I prefer the tumult of liberty to the quiet of servitude”. He also said in the same letter that “governments of force” are a “government of wolves over sheep.”**
- **Please stop this injustice before it goes any further.**

Chair and Members of the House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee,

My name is Randy, a proud Minnesotan, law-abiding gun owner, and defender of our constitutional rights. I am testifying today in strong opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402, two bills that represent a dangerous overreach by the government, infringing on the fundamental rights of millions of responsible citizens while doing nothing to enhance public safety. These measures are unconstitutional, ineffective, and punitive toward everyday Minnesotans who exercise their Second Amendment rights for self-defense, sport, and recreation. I urge you to reject them outright.

First, let's clarify what these bills entail. HF 3433 imposes a sweeping ban on the sale, transfer, and possession of nearly all semi-automatic rifles—firearms that are commonly owned and used by hunters, target shooters, and those protecting their homes. While it allows limited grandfathering for current owners, it prohibits any transfers, even to family members, and mandates a costly certificate process. Worse, it opens the door to warrantless home inspections by law enforcement under the guise of "safe storage" checks, restricts these firearms to only homes or licensed ranges, and bans their use for hunting. This isn't regulation; it's a de facto confiscation scheme disguised as safety.

HF 3402 is equally egregious, banning the manufacture, sale, transfer, and possession of any ammunition magazine holding more than 10 rounds, with no grandfathering clause. Owners must destroy, surrender, or remove these magazines from the state by July 1, 2026—or face felony charges punishable by up to five years in prison and \$25,000 in fines. This affects standard-capacity magazines that come factory-standard with many firearms, turning law-abiding citizens into criminals overnight for possessing items they've legally owned for years.

These bills are fundamentally flawed and must be stopped for several key reasons:

1. **They Violate the Second Amendment and Supreme Court Precedents:** The U.S. Supreme Court has repeatedly affirmed that the right to keep and bear arms is an individual right essential to self-defense. Semi-automatic rifles and standard-capacity magazines are in common use for lawful purposes by tens of millions of Americans, including Minnesotans. Banning them directly contradicts rulings like *District of Columbia v. Heller* (2008) and *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen* (2022), which protect firearms commonly used for self-defense and reject arbitrary restrictions without historical precedent. Minnesota's own constitution echoes this protection, stating that "every person is entitled to... certain remedy in the laws for all injuries or wrongs." These bills treat gun owners as suspects, eroding freedoms that have been upheld for generations.
2. **They Won't Reduce Crime or Improve Safety:** Criminals don't follow laws—they obtain firearms and magazines illegally. Studies show that so-called "assault weapons" bans and magazine limits have negligible impact on violent crime rates. For instance, the federal assault weapons ban from 1994-2004 showed no measurable reduction in homicides or mass shootings, according to Department of Justice research. In Minnesota, most gun-related crimes involve handguns, not rifles, and are committed by repeat offenders who ignore existing laws. These bills target law-abiding owners while leaving criminals untouched, diverting resources from real solutions like enforcing current statutes against illegal possession and trafficking.

3. **They Impose Unfair Burdens on Law-Abiding Citizens:** HF 3433's warrantless inspections invite government intrusion into private homes, violating Fourth Amendment protections against unreasonable searches. The certificate requirement adds unnecessary costs and bureaucracy, disproportionately affecting rural Minnesotans who rely on these firearms for hunting and pest control. HF 3402 forces owners to destroy or surrender property they've legally acquired, amounting to uncompensated takings that could violate due process. These measures criminalize everyday people—veterans, single parents, farmers—who use these tools responsibly, without any evidence they've contributed to crime.
4. **They Set a Dangerous Precedent for Further Erosion of Rights:** If we allow bans on semi-automatic rifles and standard magazines today, what's next? Handguns? Shotguns? This slippery slope undermines trust in government and divides our communities. Minnesotans value their liberties, and polls show broad opposition to such extreme measures among gun owners and non-owners alike. We should focus on mental health initiatives, community policing, and education to address root causes of violence, not punish the innocent.
5. **Better Alternatives Exist: Enhance Screening with Relevant Questions Instead of Banning Tools:** Rather than blanket bans on commonly used firearms and magazines that do nothing to stop determined bad actors, policymakers should strengthen the existing National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) by adding targeted, commonsense questions to the federal ATF Form 4473 that directly address potential risk factors. For example, include inquiries such as: "Are you currently under the influence of, or have you ever taken any gender-affirming medications?" or "Do you consider yourself to be any gender other than the one assigned to you at birth?" These kinds of questions could help identify individuals who may be experiencing significant psychological distress or identity-related instability—factors sometimes linked to elevated risks in certain violent incidents—without broadly infringing on the rights of the vast majority of stable, law-abiding citizens. Focusing on individualized screening through the current background check process would be far more effective and rights-respecting than creating new classes of prohibited "tools" that only burden the responsible.

In conclusion, HF 3433 and HF 3402 are not about safety—they're about control. They infringe on our rights, fail to protect the public, and turn responsible Minnesotans into felons. I implore you to vote against these bills, preserve the freedoms that make Minnesota strong, and instead pursue smarter, targeted reforms if the goal is truly public safety. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy U.

Wrenshall, MN

Ms. Elle McDaniel,

I have been a law abiding firearms owner for over 45 years and a large game/small game hunter for 49.

I am writing today in opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402. These proposed bills are blatant infringements on the 2nd Amendment rights of law-abiding Minnesota residents.

Also, these bills will do nothing to stop crime in our great state. As by definition, criminals will simply ignore these new laws as they do other gun laws. This will only serve to violate/curtail the rights of law-abiding citizens.

I urge you to please reconsider these bills and work to find concrete ways to keep the lower crime in Minnesota.

Thank you, Richard Jacobs.

Good morning,

I am writing to you this morning to voice my opposition to the two bills scheduled for a vote this afternoon: HF3433 and HF3402.

The U.S. Constitution is the "supreme law of the land," and no state law can override it, as established in the Supremacy Clause. The Second Amendment is clear: "the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." I believe these bills represent an infringement on those constitutional rights.

Thank you for your time and for considering my position on this matter.

Sincerely,

Rick Fitzpatrick
Concerned MN Resident

Testimony in Opposition to HF-3433 and HF3402

As a life long resident and tax payer in Minnesota, I want to express opposition to HF-3433 and HF-3402. These two bills are a travesty against law abiding citizens and gun owners. They expand felony penalties for legally owned semi-automatic rifles and normal standard capacity magazines that are owned by millions of Americans across our great country. These laws seek to punish law abiding citizens for mere possession of these items without justification, such as acts of violence or threats to commit bodily harm, while doing nothing to prevent misuse of these items by criminals who by definition do not abide by the law. The attempt to expand felony law to potentially make felons of law abiding citizens is appalling, and something I never dreamed could happen in Minnesota through the 78 years I have lived in this state.

Minnesota House of Representatives,

I am writing as your constituent to respectfully urge you to **oppose House Bill H3380DE2** and any legislation that would ban commonly owned semi-automatic rifles or standard-capacity magazines.

I am a DFL voter, a sportsman, and a competitive shooter. I also know many other “non-traditional” firearms owners - people across the political spectrum - who would be directly and adversely affected by this proposal. This is not a fringe or partisan issue. In Minnesota, responsible firearm ownership spans backgrounds, communities, and political identities.

Semi-automatic firearms and standard-capacity magazines are commonly owned and widely used for lawful purposes including self-defense, hunting, training, and competitive shooting. A ban would place otherwise law-abiding Minnesotans on the wrong side of the law, disrupt established sporting communities, and penalize people who have complied with every existing regulation in good faith.

I **OPPOSE** the ban on semi-automatic rifles.

I **OPPOSE** the ban on standard capacity magazines.

Fundamental rights are not negotiable. The Second Amendment protects commonly owned arms, and Minnesota has a long tradition of responsible gun ownership and sportsmanship that should be respected, not restricted.

Public safety is important to me, as it is to most firearm owners, but policies that focus on banning widely owned, lawful property will not address the root causes of violent crime. They will, however, erode trust between legislators and responsible citizens who have done nothing wrong.

I respectfully ask that you **vote NO** on H3380DE2 and any similar legislation. **Oppose the Semi-Auto and Magazine Ban.**

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert Knecht
4259 Queen Ave N
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55412

Matthew Rognstad
Minneapolis, MN

February 23, 2026

Minnesota House Public Safety Committee
Minnesota House of Representatives
Saint Paul, Minnesota

Dear Representatives,

I'm writing today to express my strong opposition to HF 3402 (the ban on standard and extended capacity magazines) and HF 3433 (the ban on semi-automatic rifles).

I'm a liberal, gay, DFL-voting and -donating, gun-owning competitive shooter from Minneapolis. I'm even generally supportive of gun control measures. I think it is totally reasonable to have a duty to retreat before resorting to deadly force, and I believe the slate of gun control measures passed during the 2023 session are largely beneficial. In my mind, the 2023 laws strike a reasonable balance between attempting to reduce harm in exceptional circumstances while also minimally restricting the rights of Minnesotans.

The bills this year miss the mark.

I oppose these bills for their impact on the shooting sports. I'm a Master-class shooter and certified Chief Range Officer in the United States Practical Shooting Association, the largest governing body in the country for this type of competition. These bills would cripple the vibrant shooting sports community in Minnesota.

- At least six Minnesotans have placed in the top 20 at nationals in recent years, and just last year one earned second place at the World Shoot (the Olympics of practical shooting) in the Czech Republic using a pistol caliber carbine, which would be banned by HF 3433.
- Using and practicing with expanded capacity magazines is utterly essential to remain competitive in the activity beyond our borders. The differences in size, weight, and balance of 10-round magazines are too different for practice with them to be comparable.
- Forest Lake hosts the yearly USPSA Multigun Nationals match, which brings hundreds of competitors and staff to Minnesota from all over the country. It is hosting two other major matches this year that draw competitors from the region and beyond.
- Pine Island is home to one of the most active USPSA clubs in the country.
- All of that would likely go away if these bills pass
- Banning these firearms and magazines would inflict significant financial losses on firearms owners. Competitive shooters routinely have multiple thousands of dollars of equipment tailored to national competition rules that are incompatible with these laws. Magazines used for these competitions routinely cost upwards of \$100 each, and we

need a bunch of them for each gun we have ever used in a match. I have spent thousands of dollars on magazines alone.

- Undermining the shooting sports in MN would be particularly unfortunate because competing is the very best way to force people to really master gun safety; unsafe behavior results in immediate disqualification.
- I also am convinced it is the very best way to develop and assess real shooting skills under pressure. The shooting sports are a tremendous resource for anyone who has to carry a gun for their job, has a permit to carry one, or otherwise might rely on a gun in a crisis. I would hope we can agree that anyone who uses a gun for defense should actually be able to use it proficiently.

I oppose the bills because, and I honestly cannot believe I'm saying this, the second amendment is a necessary bulwark against federal tyranny.

- Until recently, I viewed anyone who said something like that as kook, utterly divorced from reality. After January 6 and the recent occupation of Minnesota by armed, masked federal agents who terrorized our communities with impunity, I sadly don't think it is crazy anymore.
- I'm not alone in thinking that way. Gun sales surged here during the ICE occupation. That increase came from people who hold DFL values. This year alone more friends and acquaintances than I can count on both hands have asked me for advice about buying their first gun and learning to shoot. Most of those people are queer or from racial or religious minorities.
- Like many run-of-the-mill Minnesotans, people in my circle are deeply afraid, and they all saw that our local law enforcement couldn't protect us. They also realize the National Guard isn't a solution because it could be federalized. Faced with unaccountable federal violence, they came to the conclusion that they needed to prepare to defend themselves and their loved ones.
- The idea of individual citizens having to defend against a vindictive federal government is horrifying, and I pray it remains an awful hypothetical. Given recent events, though, and the now obvious weakness of the normal checks and balances, I regretfully think it deserves serious consideration when it comes to gun policy. It is unfathomable to me that you would ask vulnerable minorities, and Minnesota as a whole, to unilaterally disarm in the immediate aftermath of federal agents brazenly executing protestors in broad daylight. They came here uninvited. They killed us. They lied about it. They're now doing everything they can to avoid any accountability afterwards.

I can imagine a scenario where a slate of nationwide restrictions on gun ownership could contribute to reducing gun violence, but doing some of it in Minnesota alone makes them trivial to bypass by traveling to any surrounding state. Anyone considering committing murder won't be deterred by the threat of being charged with an additional, less serious, crime. Driving an hour to Wisconsin to buy widely available, normal magazines is not a meaningful barrier to a mass shooter. But making mere possession of them a felony is a huge burden on normal Minnesotans.

The lack of a grandfathering provision in HF 3402 is particularly egregious. The bill would effectively make the vast majority of people who have purchased a run-of-the-mill semiautomatic firearm in the last 60 or so years a felon.

HF 3433's provision requiring regular inspection of homes is incompatible with a free society. It is especially galling that the only people subject to these inspections would be those who complied with the law and admitted owning the newly banned firearms. There is no way to make such a requirement compatible with the fourth amendment. Requiring probable cause and a judicial warrant to search homes is a fundamental right for good reason.

Additionally, we know that policing falls disproportionately on minorities. These bills would reinforce existing racial disparities in criminal justice. Knowingly expanding the set of "gun crimes" that will tend to be discovered and charged against minorities is particularly tragic given how statistics about crime and race are distorted by some policymakers and pundits in this country.

I realize that plenty of defenders of gun rights would argue that literally no gun control is constitutional and that they should be able to own rocket launchers and tanks. Those people are unreachable, but I'm not one of them. You and I are on the same side of almost every issue, including the gun control debate overall, but I'm telling you these laws that outright ban the most effective tools for competition and self-defense go too far. They would be significantly burdensome to law-abiding Minnesotans (many of whom normally vote DFL), and won't help our gun violence problem. I know that your hearts are in the right place, and you are considering this legislation out of a genuine desire to reduce gun violence, but please do not support these bills.

If you have any questions about my testimony, I would be absolutely thrilled to discuss them with you at your convenience.

Sincerely,
Matt Rognstad

Rowan McIntyre 2021 W 90th St #206 Bloomington, MN 55431
rowan55431@gmail.com (952) 843-8163 2/23/2026

Dear Members of the Minnesota House of Representatives,

I am writing as a constituent from Bloomington, Minnesota, to express my strong opposition to House Files HF 3433 and HF 3402. These bills, which seek to ban the possession of semiautomatic military-style assault weapons and large-capacity ammunition magazines (those holding more than 10 rounds), respectively, represent a significant infringement on the rights of law-abiding Minnesotans. I urge you to reject these proposals for the following reasons.

First, both bills are unconstitutional under the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution, as interpreted by the U.S. Supreme Court. In *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen* (2022), the Court established that firearm regulations must be consistent with the nation's historical tradition of firearm regulation. There is no such historical tradition for blanket bans on commonly owned semiautomatic rifles or standard-capacity magazines. Semiautomatic firearms, including those targeted by HF 3433, and magazines over 10 rounds, as addressed in HF 3402, are in common use by millions of Americans for lawful purposes, including self-defense. The Supreme Court in *District of Columbia v. Heller* (2008) made clear that the Second Amendment protects arms "typically possessed by law-abiding citizens for lawful purposes," and bans on such arms are presumptively invalid.

Post-Bruen court decisions have highlighted the unconstitutionality of similar restrictions. For instance, while some courts, like the Fourth Circuit in *Bianchi v. Brown* (2024), have upheld assault weapon bans by classifying them as "military-style" and outside Second Amendment protection, others have struck down or questioned such laws, emphasizing the lack of historical analogs for prohibiting firearms based on features like pistol grips or adjustable stocks. Similarly, for magazine bans, courts are divided: the Washington Supreme Court upheld a 10-round limit in *Gator's Custom Guns v. Washington* (2025) by ruling that large-capacity magazines are not "arms," but petitions before the U.S. Supreme Court argue otherwise, noting their widespread ownership and utility in self-defense. These bills fail the Bruen test and would likely face successful legal challenges, wasting taxpayer resources.

Second, these bills do not represent the interests of many Minnesota constituents, including myself and a significant portion of the population who value their right to

self-defense. While some polls, such as those from Everytown for Gun Safety (2025) showing 61% support for assault weapon bans and 64% for high-capacity magazine bans, or the Minnesota Community Survey (2025) indicating 69% support for banning assault-style weapons, suggest majority backing, these surveys often reflect urban biases and may not capture the views of rural or Second Amendment-focused Minnesotans. Moreover, public opinion cannot override constitutional rights—representatives have a duty to uphold the Constitution, even against majority sentiment. These bans would criminalize possession of commonly owned items with felony penalties up to 5 years in prison, harsher than punishments for some violent crimes like fifth-degree criminal sexual conduct or domestic assault. This prioritizes disarming law-abiding citizens over addressing actual violence, which does not align with the priorities of many Minnesotans who rely on these firearms for protection, hunting, and sport. HF 3433 and HF 3402 offer no grandfathering, forcing owners to surrender, destroy, or remove their property from the state within a year. This amounts to an uncompensated taking and burdens law-abiding individuals without impacting criminals, who obtain firearms illegally anyway. Instead of these ineffective measures, focus on enforcing existing laws, improving mental health resources, and targeting root causes of violence.

I respectfully request that you vote against HF 3433 and HF 3402 and stand up for the constitutional rights of Minnesotans. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss this further.

Sincerely, Rowan McIntyre

To the Honorable Ms. McDaniel:

My name is Ryon McCamish and I currently reside in Albert Lea, MN. I am a stay-at-home father of 13 years, have been with my wife for 18 wonderful years, and we have two permanently disabled, special needs children ages 12 and 13. Both my wife and I are life-long democrats, are law abiding citizens to our core, and I am a new gun owner and soon to be concealed carry permit holder.

I am writing to provide a public statement regarding HF3402 and HF3433 and that I am in full opposition of either of these bills.

The argument of our Second Amendment rights being infringed on has been discussed ad nauseum for decades now. I will not be offering any Constitutional arguments in my statement as it is obvious that all of our elected officials at any government level have zero regard, concern, or care for the Constitution at any level government level.

According to the Minnesota Crime Data Explorer, between 2023 and 2025, there were 5,290 violent crimes against persons involving a handgun of the total 126,371 incidents. In that same time period, only 277 violent crimes involved a rifle and 195 involved a shotgun. Percentage wise, that is 4.18%, 0.21%, and 0.15% respectively. Statistically speaking, you are significantly more at risk of being the victim of a violent crime where a handgun is involved than any other firearm. During that same time period, there were 451 total incidents where Murder and Non-Negligent Manslaughter crimes were committed. 164 of those involved a handgun, 13 with a rifle, and 6 with a shotgun. There is a 36% higher chance of being murdered with a handgun than any other firearm mentioned.

By all statistical accounts, there is a much higher risk being the victim of a gun crime where a handgun is used. Why are we not banning those instead? What about an assault rifle is more concerning and deadly than a 9mm handgun? They both have an opportunity to end a life as they do to save many more lives against an assailant. These bills brought on by Rep. Emma Greenman (DFL, HF63B) and Rep. Brad Tabke (DFL, HD 54A) are not only outlandish, but they're overreaching, overbearing, and devastatingly and outrageously punishing to those of us who have done nothing wrong except exercise our constitutional rights. From a constitutional standpoint, our second amendment wasn't created to just own guns; it was created to give power to the people to keep our government in check. With recent events surrounding ICE operations, the Trump administration, and our fellow Americans Renee Good and Alex Pretti being murdered by federalized Call of Duty cosplaying traitors who celebrated and idolized their unnecessary demise, it is asinine to remove the ability for Minnesota residents to protect themselves right now from a tyrannical government with a practically unlimited amount of firepower. Nationally and in Minneapolis proper, there is nearly a 10 minute response time for law enforcement officers to Priority 1 calls which includes gun related incidents. It takes one permit carrying, law abiding individual 10 seconds to respond to an active shooter.

To Rep. Greenman and Rep. Tabke directly, to be briefly candid; what are you thinking? A felony charge with up to 5 years in prison and/or a \$25,000 fine for one single piece of plastic with a metal spring and no grandfather clause? Law enforcement officers entering my home without a warrant whenever they want? Perhaps we should be coming into your home whenever we want to ensure you locked up your liquor cabinet from your teenager. Have you ensured that all harmful chemicals such as a weed killer, cleaning agent, or nail polish remover are properly secured? I think all of those negligent actions should be a felony with 10 years in a federal maximum security prison, and a \$50,000 fine that accrues interest at 5% each day it's not paid in full with cash only. You are both vile and deplorable politicians to even consider such heinous, invasive, privacy invading, unconstitutional, and just downright foolish laws and punishment with these bills. How dare you remove my and others right to protect ourselves, freedoms, and country with these bills. You want to fix our gun violence, look at studies about socio-economic and healthcare status. There is strong correlation to poverty, low wages, poor physical and mental healthcare and the relation to gun crimes. Raise the state minimum wage, help those who need it, and provide a better quality of life for everyone. Talk about ruining millions of Minnesota families who have done nothing wrong. And all during an election year where Democrats are gaining votes at astronomical speeds from even lifelong Republican voters.

Personally, I've never wanted to own a gun and I still don't. I enjoy shooting them and I enjoy looking at them and that's it. That all changed when the world saw Renee Good and Alex Pretti being gleefully murdered in broad daylight by trigger happy idiots and our federal government calling them terrorists and publicly lying to the whole world. With talks of ICE agents going door-to-door, ADHD and autism "wellness camps" brought up by our so-called Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the absolute ignorance of our government at every level doing absolutely nothing to protect its citizens from a tyrants with guns; if you won't protect us, then let us do it for ourselves. As a Millennial, I have seen my freedoms over the last 25 years be forcibly taken from us by politicians who don't even care what their constituents say and I'm sick of it. I have a duty to protect my family, my freedoms, my country, my fellow Americans, and myself. Stop taking our freedoms and punishing those who have done nothing wrong. It's getting real old, real fast.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Greenman". The signature is stylized with large, sweeping loops and a prominent dot at the end of the last stroke.

A Pro-2A life-long Democrat

Concerning HF 3433: A ban on the possession of most semi-automatic rifles and HF 3402: A total ban on the possession of magazines holding more than ten rounds.

MN representatives,

As a father of daughters, these proposed bills would prevent our family from having the proper tools to lawfully defend our lives. This is very troubling, as these proposed bills would mean my daughters would not have the option for such tools. Nor would my wife. As we have seen in current events, law enforcement won't be available when needed. And it is very unsettling that laws would be passed that would limit a woman's right to lawfully defend herself!

Also, if HF 3433 and HF 3402 become law, I would expect lawsuits. Which would be very costly to the state of Minnesota. I would also expect the state of Minnesota to lose, as these proposed bills appear unconstitutional to the average person. I don't want my tax dollars wasted on this.

I am against HF 3433: A ban on the possession of most semi-automatic rifles and HF 3402: A total ban on the possession of magazines holding more than ten rounds.

Vote no for HF 3433 and HF 3402.

Regards,

Ryan Owens
Hopkins, MN

Ms. McDaniel,

HF 3433 and 3402 are unconstitutional are in opposition to the fundamental rights of Minnesotans. .

HF 3433 would effectively ban the possession of most semi-automatic rifles commonly owned by law-abiding Minnesotans for self-defense, sport shooting, and other lawful purposes. Warrantless home inspections for storage compliance, confinement to home or licensed ranges only, and prohibiting hunting impose severe burdens on responsible gun owners. These measures infringe on Second Amendment rights without meaningfully enhancing public safety, as criminals do not comply with the law.

HF 3402 imposes a total ban on magazines capable of holding more than ten rounds, with no grandfathering provision. Law-abiding citizens would be forced to destroy, surrender, modify, or remove these standard-capacity magazines from the state by the compliance deadline. Many firearms are designed around these magazines for reliable function, and this ban would render legally owned guns less effective for self-defense or other legitimate uses. Arbitrary capacity limits never reduce crime and they violate the rights of Minnesotans who have done nothing wrong.

Both bills target law abiding gun owners rather than addressing the root causes of violence. They would create felons out of citizens exercising constitutional rights, while doing nothing to prevent misuse by those who ignore laws. I urge the committee to reject these bills and protect the Second Amendment rights of Minnesotans.

Thank you for considering this email. I respectfully request that it be entered into the record for the February 24 hearing.

Sincerely,

Samuel Adams

13704 Atrium Ave

Rosemount, Mn 55068

Written Testimony in Opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402

Minnesota House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee

February 23, 2026

Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Samuel Carson, and I live in Minneapolis. I am writing in opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402.

I am a DFL senate caucus delegate, a longtime Democratic donor, and a lifelong Democratic voter. I include that because I want to be clear about where this testimony is coming from. I am not writing as a partisan opponent of this committee or this caucus. I am writing as someone who has supported the DFL for years and who believes these bills are a serious mistake on civil liberties, public safety, and political grounds.

I also want to acknowledge the obvious: this debate is happening in the wake of horrifying violence and real fear. I understand why there is pressure to act. But urgency is not the same thing as wisdom. In my view, these bills go far beyond reasonable policy and cross lines that many law-abiding Minnesotans, including people in the DFL coalition and people who are newly listening, cannot accept.

HF 3433 is especially egregious.

First, it conditions continued ownership of lawfully owned firearms on compelled consent to law enforcement inspection of home storage. If a person refuses that inspection, they cannot keep the firearm lawfully. That is a profound rights and privacy problem. It is state power being expanded into the home as a condition of keeping property that was lawfully acquired. In practice, it gives the state home-entry and search authority through compelled consent rather than ordinary judicial process.

This is a framework **corrosive to civil liberties** that many Minnesotans have **recently and loudly rejected**. The context is different, but the civil liberties logic is the same: this bill seeks broad, pre-authorized consent for state home-entry and search authority in place of meaningful judicial safeguards.

Second, it creates an ongoing certification regime with recurring fees, while leaving fee amounts uncapped. That gives the state the ability to make continued lawful ownership contingent on paying whatever amount is set in the future. Even if that is not the intent today, it is what the structure allows.

The current language is: “(e) The appropriate law enforcement agency may charge a fee for each certification and certification renewal pursuant to this subdivision”.

Contrast that to the statute for permit to carry applications (624.714 Subd. 3. (f)), which reads: “The sheriff may charge a new application processing fee **in an amount not to exceed the actual and reasonable direct cost of processing the application or \$100, whichever is less.**” This provides reasonable caps on the fee such that it cannot reasonably be used to prevent lawful exercise of Minnesotans’ rights via financial coercion.

Third, the transfer restrictions are extreme. Once a person certifies a grandfathered firearm, the bill says it must not be transferred except to law enforcement for destruction. That means if someone later decides they do not want to keep the firearm under this regime, they can be trapped. They cannot dispose of their own lawfully acquired property in normal ways and can be forced into surrendering valuable property for destruction. That is not a narrow public-safety measure. It is a state-imposed destruction framework. If this were foreign-made cars instead of firearms, and the state told people they could neither sell them nor transfer them, only pay an uncapped recurring fee or turn them in, everyone would immediately understand how extreme that is.

Fourth, the threaded-barrel provision for pistols is not a trivial detail. It functionally bans a suppressor (silencer) setup that many people, including me, rely on for hearing safety. I use a suppressor specifically to reduce hearing damage risk. This is not a cosmetic issue for me. It is a personal safety issue. Suppressors do not make gunshots “Hollywood quiet”. They reduce a ~160 decibel blast that can cause severe, permanent hearing damage to the shooter and bystanders in a single exposure to merely ~130 dB, a level OSHA describes as between "Chain Saw" and "Jet engine at takeoff".

The American Academy of Otolaryngology (ENTs) provides the following official position statement on their public website entnet.org, on a page titled Suppressors for Hearing Preservation, dated November 18, 2024 (emphasis mine):

“Sound suppressors are mechanical devices attached to the barrel of a firearm designed to reduce harmful impulse noise of firearms at its source. CDC research has shown that “The only potentially effective noise control method to reduce [shooters’] noise exposure from gunfire is through the use of noise suppressors that can be attached to the end of the gun barrel.”¹ Suppressors reduce muzzle blast noise by up to 30 dB.² Their benefit is additive when used with ear-level hearing protection devices such as circumaural muffs or ear plugs.³ **The American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery endorses the use of firearm suppressors as an effective method of reducing the risk of hearing loss, especially when used in conjunction with conventional hearing protective measures.**”

HF 3402 is also deeply problematic.

It criminalizes possession of magazines over ten rounds, including magazines that are extremely common and widely owned by ordinary people. I understand the argument that magazine capacity can affect outcomes in mass shootings. I have read those arguments. I am sympathetic to the claimed correlation between lower capacity magazines and lower injuries and fatalities in mass shootings, which have become horrifically common. But even if that concern is sincere and real, it does not automatically justify making law-abiding people felons for possessing common property they already own.

HF 3402 is written such that if a current owner of large-capacity magazines (as defined) surrenders their magazines to law enforcement (to the best of their knowledge), then after July 1, 2027 finds another large-capacity magazine in their garage or the bottom of a bag, that person is guilty of a felony and may be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than five years and/or a fine up to \$20,000. That's the same sentence and a lesser fine than felony (repeat) Domestic Assault per 609.2242, subd. 4. The same sentence and a lesser fine than Criminal Vehicular Operation (Great Bodily Harm) (under the influence), Burglary in the third degree, and Violation of a Domestic Abuse No Contact Order while possessing a dangerous weapon. Domestic Assault by Strangulation carries a lesser sentence and a quarter the fine.

Yet the bill puts forward that **mere possession** of a magazine with a capacity over 10 rounds is a **worse crime**. Conservative estimates from the National Shooting Sports Foundation, which have also been cited by gun-control advocates, put the number of magazines in the United States at nearly **one billion**, with approximately 75% classified as "large capacity". Like it or not, they are the de facto standard (not 10-round magazines), and there are over twice as many of them as there are people in the country.

This noble-minded end does not justify the sociopolitical costs of saying "surrender your property to the state or you're a felon" to the roughly 40% of Minnesota households that own a firearm and almost certainly have "large capacity" magazines at a time when our civil rights are under attack from many angles.

That is the core problem with both bills: they are built around broad criminalization, not targeted intervention.

These proposals do not read like narrowly tailored responses to violence. They read like sweeping bans backed by felony penalties, intrusive enforcement mechanisms, and state control over ordinary possession. They will hit peaceable Minnesotans who use firearms for self-defense, sport shooting, training, and hunting, while doing far less than advertised to stop people already willing to commit serious crimes.

I also want the committee to understand that this is not only affecting “the other side.” I have seen firsthand a major increase in interest in firearms training among people who are not traditional gun-rights voters, including people on the left and people who have been active in protests against abuse of state power. Many are first-time owners. Many are people who do not feel protected and are trying to take responsibility for their own safety. Bills like these are telling those people that their concerns do not matter and that their rights are conditional.

That is a serious mistake.

This is not a blanket opposition to all gun laws. I support universal background checks and other measures that are targeted, enforceable, and consistent with civil liberties.

But HF 3433 and HF 3402 are not that. They are too broad, too punitive, and too invasive.

I respectfully ask this committee to oppose HF 3433 and HF 3402.

If the committee is unwilling to reject them outright, then at minimum I urge you to remove the most troubling provisions:

- the compelled-consent home inspection requirement
- uncapped recurring certification fees
- the transfer restrictions that trap owners into surrender/destruction
- the threaded-barrel criterion for pistols, de facto banning suppressors
- felony penalties for possession of common magazines

Please do not turn law-abiding Minnesotans into felons or subject them to intrusive state control over lawful property in the name of “public safety.”

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Samuel Carson
MN House district 61B
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Opposition to HF 3433 – Semi-Automatic Rifle Ban

As a military veteran and lifelong hunter in Minnesota, I strongly oppose HF 3433, the proposed ban on semi-automatic rifles. I served my country honorably and have extensive experience with military firearms. I also grew up hunting, learning firearm safety and responsibility from an early age. This bill directly affects law-abiding citizens like me who use firearms safely, legally, and ethically.

First, HF 3433 broadly targets an entire class of firearms that are commonly owned by responsible Americans. Semi-automatic rifles are among the most popular firearms in the United States for lawful purposes including hunting, sport shooting, and home defense. They function no differently, mechanically, than many other common semi-automatic firearms that would remain legal. Banning them based largely on cosmetic features or public perception does not meaningfully address criminal misuse.

Second, this bill unfairly burdens responsible gun owners rather than criminals. Law-abiding citizens comply with background checks, safe storage practices, and existing state and federal laws. Individuals intent on committing violent crimes, however, do not follow firearm regulations. Sweeping prohibitions risk criminalizing ordinary citizens who have done nothing wrong.

As a veteran, I understand the distinction between military weapons and civilian firearms. The rifles targeted by HF 3433 are not machine guns and are not equivalent to the firearms used by the military. My service gave me respect for training, discipline, and accountability. If our goal is public safety, we should prioritize responsible ownership, enforcement of existing laws, and mental health intervention—not broad bans that affect hunters and sport shooters.

Finally, this proposal raises serious concerns about constitutional rights. The right to keep and bear arms is not limited to firearms deemed aesthetically acceptable or politically convenient. Policies that prohibit widely owned firearms risk undermining trust between citizens and lawmakers.

I urge the Minnesota Legislature to reconsider HF 3433 and focus instead on policies that target violent offenders while preserving the rights of responsible Minnesotans.

Opposition to HF 3402 – Ban on Magazines Holding More Than 10 Rounds

I also strongly oppose HF 3402, which would prohibit possession of magazines capable of holding more than 10 rounds.

As both a veteran and a lifelong hunter, I view this bill as an unnecessary and ineffective restriction on lawful firearm owners. Magazine capacity limits are often presented as a simple solution to complex problems, but the evidence on their effectiveness in reducing violent crime remains highly debated. Criminal behavior is not determined by magazine size; it is driven by intent.

Many commonly owned firearms are designed to function with standard-capacity magazines exceeding 10 rounds. For millions of Americans, these are not “high-capacity” magazines—they are standard. A ban would instantly place otherwise law-abiding citizens in legal jeopardy for possessing equipment that has been legally purchased and responsibly used for years.

From a practical standpoint, magazine capacity can also be relevant for lawful self-defense. In high-stress situations, accuracy decreases, and the ability to respond effectively can matter. Restricting capacity may create unintended consequences for citizens acting within their legal rights.

Additionally, such bans disproportionately affect those who follow the law. Individuals who already ignore laws against assault, robbery, or homicide are unlikely to comply with a magazine restriction. Instead of broad prohibitions, lawmakers should prioritize enforcing existing firearm laws, addressing repeat violent offenders, and investing in mental health resources.

As someone who has handled military firearms and understands their purpose, I believe public policy should be grounded in technical reality—not fear or misunderstanding. Responsible ownership, training, and accountability are more effective tools for safety than blanket equipment bans.

Public safety and constitutional rights are not mutually exclusive. We can pursue meaningful violence prevention strategies without infringing upon the rights of responsible citizens.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge lawmakers to reject HF 3402.

To: Ellen McDaniel and The Minnesota House Public Safety Committee

From: Ron Broberg, Coon Rapids, Minnesota

Regarding: HF 3433

Date: 2/23/2026

I believe we all want safe communities. The question is how we get there? I oppose HF 3433 and encourage the House Public Safety Committee to NOT support this bill. Please note the following:

- A blanket ban on the sale, transfer, and possession of all semi-automatic rifles would raise serious constitutional concerns under the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution.
- The Supreme Court of the United States decisions such as *District of Columbia v Heller* and *New York State Rifle and Pistol Association v Bruen*, the court affirmed that the Second Amendment protects an individual right to possess firearms that are in common use for lawful purposes such as self-defense.
- Semi-automatic rifles are among the most owned firearms in the country and are widely used for lawful activities including sport shooting, hunting and home defense.
- A categorical ban on an entire class of commonly possessed firearms would raise substantial constitutional questions about where such a prohibition is consistent with established jurisprudence.
- Routine in-home inspections of privately owned firearms for storage requirements would raise substantial Fourth Amendment concerns and erodes public trust.
- Firearms that are legally acquired constitute lawful personal property.
- Prohibiting all transfers of semi-automatic rifles between qualified individuals- would effectively freeze lawful ownership and restrict estate planning, inheritance, and regulated private sales. (This is a gun grab to long term eliminate semi-automatic rifles.)
- Preserving lawful avenues for transfer ensures that responsible gun owners can comply with the law while maintaining traceability and oversight mechanisms already embedded in federal/state regulations.

In addition to constitutional concerns, there are practical and policy considerations:

- Semi-automatic rifles represent a small percentage of firearms used in overall criminal activity, including homicides.

- While high-profile crimes involving rifles understandably generate public concern, broad prohibitions will not meaningfully reduce violent crime if they do not address the primary sources of firearm misuse.
- Safety increases in schools, access to mental health services, prohibiting those with mental illness from purchasing a firearm, those incarcerated for committing a violent crime-serving their full sentence, and eliminating ghost guns all have the potential of decreasing violent crime in the community.
- Such strategies can coexist with constitutional protections while addressing the root causes of violent crime.
- Public safety objectives may be better served by focusing on individuals who misuse firearms rather than prohibiting an entire class of commonly owned property.
- Side note: “Bad Guys” will carry a 30-round magazine or 3 ten round magazines.

Respectfully-please know these answers before you start your work:

- Do you know how many homicides are caused by individuals who have used semi-automatic rifles and “high capacity” magazines in the history of the State of Minnesota or the United States?
- If we don’t have the above data, why not?
- How do we make policy and law without accurate facts?
- Do you know the questions asked when applying for a firearm at a gun shop?
- How is a background checked through technology to assure only law-abiding citizens are approved for purchasing a firearm?
- Does this technology need to be enhanced to assure safety?

It is time for the legislature to do the real work:

- Funding for School Resource Officers in all schools.
- Funding for upgraded security technology in all schools.
- Funding for in/out-patient chemical and mental health treatment.
- Violent criminals serving their full incarcerated time in the corrections facility.
- Remember when Minnesota changed sentencing from two thirds to one half based on good behavior?
- Preventing those who are mentally ill or violent from purchasing a firearm.
- Eliminating ghost gun loopholes.
- Let’s put our energy into something productive with long term real impact. The type of firearm or magazine one can use isn’t worth the energy to debate when other strategies can be more effective in making Minnesota a safer state.

February 23, 2026

Minnesota House Public Safety Committee

To all members of the committee:

I am a lifelong Minnesotan, and a current Carver County resident writing to express my strong opposition to both HF 3433, and HF 3402.

Both bills will impose outrageous and unconstitutional limitations on my freedoms, and should be withdrawn immediately. Your focus should be on protecting Minnesotans from criminal acts, rather than undermining constitutional rights of law abiding citizens.

Sincerely,

Stephen Gulbrandsen, DDS

1901 Edgewater Place

Victoria, MN 55386

23 February, 2026

To: Ellen McDaniel,

I am writing to express my opposition to these bills, HF 3433 - Semi-Automatic Rifle Ban, and HF 3402, Standard capacity magazine ban.

Semi automatic rifles are owned by many thousands of Minnesotans, and are used everyday for self-defense, hunting, target shooting, and many other purposes. Banning these firearms from legal owners will not impact use by criminals. Criminals will not register firearms, or turn them in.

The standard capacity magazine ban has this same problem. Legal owners will turn them in or sell them out of state. Criminals will not.

Millions of these magazines are held by Minnesotans. These are in common use everyday.

The banning of these rifles and magazines deprives gun owners of their legally held and acquired possessions. People and firearms that have committed no crimes.

I urge the committee to vote 'NO' on HF 3433 and 3402. Do not advance these egregious bills beyond committee.

Thank you,

Susan Amacher

Lake St. Croix Beach, MN

651.247.7767

HF-3433 and HF-3402 - Testimony

Even though I have never been a gun owner and I did not grow up using guns, I am writing to urge you to vote against HF-3433 and HF-3402.

I believe that these HFs are a misdirected attempt to address the problem of violence in our society. It's misdirected because people who want to commit violence will find ways even if they don't have firearms. We've seen this in Great Britain and other countries where people use knives, machetes, fists, poison, etc. to harm and murder people.

Also, these HFs target people who are law-abiding. These HFs would turn them into felons for simply owning things that people have owned for decades. Some of these firearms have been passed down in families. These HFs would prevent families from continuing that tradition. I think that is very intrusive in private family matters.

And finally, these HFs would take effect suddenly and harshly. It doesn't seem judicious to enact a law with such harsh penalties and with such suddenness, and without allowing time for a state-wide conversation with the people who will be affected.

Please consider these ideas as you decide how to vote.

Sincerely,

Susan Taylor
Afton, MN

Ellen McDaniel
Committee Administrator – DFL Caucus
MN House of Representatives
658 Cedar St, St. Paul 55155

Ms. McDaniel,

I am writing in very strong opposition to efforts by MN House and Senate Democrats to pass HF 3433 - A ban on the possession of most semi-automatic rifles; and HF 3402 - A total ban on the possession of magazines holding more than ten rounds; and their companion bill SF3654 in the Senate.

These flawed, proposed bills are classic knee-jerk responses by those demanding even more restrictive gun control laws to address the unfortunate and recent deadly tragedies involving firearms, which were perpetrated by individuals who were either not legally allowed nor mentally stable to possess firearms.

These bills, if passed, would create an egregious infringement upon our federal constitutional rights regarding our firearms and right to privacy, and turn law-abiding Minnesotans and out-of-state visitors, outdoor enthusiasts and sportsmen into criminals simply by possessing a firearm they legally own or carry. That is unjust, unworkable, and unacceptable.

Enacting these flawed, proposed bills will not reduce crimes involving firearms. They only punish those who already follow the law while doing nothing to deter criminals who ignore it. It disarms the peaceable and empowers predators. Also, to refer to firearms as “assault-style weapons” is a misnomer. Any object that a perpetrator uses to inflict or cause harm to another person can be called an “assault-style weapon”, whether it’s a hammer; a rock or brick; a baseball bat; a length of pipe; a knife; a vehicle; feet or fists; etc.

As your constituent, I urge you to oppose these dangerously flawed proposed bills and vote NO on HF 3433, HF 3402 and their companion Senate bill SF3654. I want to know that you will stand with law-abiding Minnesotans, not against us.

I am a retired MN licensed police officer and investigator with over 21 years of training and experience, and am currently licensed in MN, FL and under the LEOSA Act of 2004 to legally carry firearms. I support the efforts of the Minnesota Gun Owners Caucus. They speak for me at the Capitol.

Sincerely,

Mr. Terrance Nordquist
750 Lakeshore Dr
Big Lake, MN 55309
763-760-4519 (mobile)



**ELLEN MCDANIEL
MINNESOTA HOUSE
HF 3433
HF 3402**

DEAR ELLEN,

I'm writing regarding the 2-gun bills coming before the House. I'd like to give you a little background on myself before giving my opinion.

I'm 61 years old, have lived in Minnesota my entire life, and had hoped to retire in this State. My father taught me how to hunt and fish at a very young age. I did the same with my 2 boys and was hoping to be involved in this activity with my grandchildren. I grew up in Northeastern Minnesota (north of Duluth) and still have family there. I've spent most of my life enjoying northern Minnesota with my family and friends. This includes hunting, fishing, camping, 4-wheeling, and multiple other outdoor activities. I own firearms and I've shown/trained family and friends how to use and take care of them responsibly.

Now for the "soap box". Guns are NOT our societal problem. Mental health and a lack of respect for life is. Not a single gun in my possession has ever fired itself at anything. I, as a human being, must load, aim, and fire the gun for anything to happen. Semi-automatic weapons are commonly used to hunt big game (deer, bear, moose, etc.), they are also used for waterfowl, pheasant, and grouse. I would venture to guess that 99% of Minnesotans that own semi-automatic weapons and large capacity magazines will NEVER use them to shoot another human being. Legislation should be fashioned to address people with mental illness, not restrict average gun owners.

Both Bills violate MY 2nd Amendment right. HF 3433 will violate my 4th Amendment rights, potentially my 9th Amendment rights, and my 14th Amendment rights. Both bills will destroy hunting & sport shooting in Minnesota, and in my opinion, be just another reason for residents like me, to leave this once great State for a freer and more well run State.

SINCERELY,

Terry Sweeney

TERRY SWEENEY

7154 BRIAN DR | CENTERVILLE, MN 55038

I am writing to urge you oppose HF 3402. This bill amounts to unconstitutional and unworkable infringements of Minnesotans' right to keep and bear arms. The 10 round limit is an arbitrary carry over from the 1994 "assault weapon" ban. There has never been any actual rationale for a 10 round ban versus 8, 12, 15, 17, 20, or any other size magazine. More importantly, a ban like this would somehow both be almost completely unenforceable and have immediate and severe consequences throughout the state.

One of the most commonly owned firearms for personal defense and carry is the Glock 19. This usually ships with three 15 round magazines. To keep the math relatively simple, let's assume that the 400,000 plus carry permit holders in our state own one of those firearms. That would mean 1.2 million standard issue and currently legal magazines would immediately become felony level contraband. More realistically, many gun owners own far more magazines than initially come with the firearm, and many gun owners own more than one firearm. Nearly all modern firearms have magazines greater than 10 rounds (and very few naturally have 10 round magazines). So if we assume each of the 400,000 carry permit holders have 3 firearms, and a few extra magazines, we are closing in on 4-5 million currently lawful magazines. And this doesn't include the lawful firearm owners who do not have carry permits, but still own firearms, many of which would come with multiple magazines greater than 10 rounds. It would not be hard to envision that there are over 10 million standard capacity magazines in the state currently. By any stretch of the imagination, this would meet the definition of "in common usage."

Further, if we again look at just the 400,000 plus carry permit holders in the state, these are, by definition, some of the most law abiding people around. These people are not the problem. Yet you want to pass a law that would create felons out of nearly all of this cohort unless they destroy their personal property. Let's also consider the financial toll this will take, as all these currently legal magazines cost money to purchase, and there is no plan to reimburse anyone for their loss. Additionally, these 400,000 plus permit holders would then have to purchase additional "compliant" magazines, again at a cost. For reference, a pistol magazine runs anywhere between \$20-50. So taking our estimates from above, you would like the group of otherwise extremely law abiding Minnesotans to destroy or turn over a minimum of \$24 million worth of equipment and eat that cost, then repurchase another \$24 million of magazines. If you extrapolate the

data further to the fact that many gun owners own multiple firearms, and own multiple magazines the cost is astronomical and approaches \$200 million and beyond.

Enforcement would be another issue. This would be completely and totally unenforceable for the vast majority of magazines. The police cannot go door to door searching for them. There is no way to know who has these, and no way to find them. The only times this law would have an effect is in an actual crime, which again are not likely to be committed by the people affected by the law (not to mention that criminals don't care about the law, and are already likely illegally possessing the firearm in the first place) or it will be a "gotcha" type of situation where law enforcement stumbles upon the magazine for unrelated reasons. For that person who gets caught up in this law, a 5 year felony awaits. And for what crime? Not disposing of an inert plastic or metal box with a spring in it? This hardly seems like the type of criminal behavior we need to worry about.

At the end of the day, this bill is directed at punishing a group of people you don't believe should have a right to firearm ownership. You are fully entitled to have whatever beliefs you want about the Second Amendment, but you are not entitled to trample on that right from your elected position. The law abiding gun owners of this state are not the problem. The millions of standard capacity magazines in this state are not the problem. If you want to address violence, start at the root of the problem. Our social fabric is falling apart. Families are falling apart. Social media is poisoning our children. Drugs are all too common and accepted (thanks in part to legalizing marijuana, which remains illegal at the federal level). These issues have led to a collapse of the mental health of our society.

Thank you

David Wetzel, M.D.

I am writing to urge you to oppose HF 3433. This bill is a blatant infringement to Minnesotans right to keep and bear arms. AR-15 style rifles are some of the most commonly owned firearms in the country, with estimates of over 20 million lawfully possessed. These are commonly used for sport shooting, home defense, and hunting, all legal and common activities. In order to purchase one in Minnesota, an individual is already required to obtain permission from the state in the form of a permit to purchase, which means every owner in the state has been vetted by law enforcement.

From a public safety standpoint, these firearms account for fewer deaths a year nationwide than fists and feet. Certainly, high profile mass shootings are horrific events, and action must be taken to prevent them, but outlawing the most common rifle in the country because it has been used by sick and deranged individuals is akin to outlawing sports cars because they go fast and someone recklessly crashed into a bus. In both cases, the problem is individual behavior. The solutions to these events is to stop the individual before they commit the crime, not punishing lawful gun owners.

The idea of requiring law enforcement to certify current ownership for grandfathering, and have a home inspection is simply ludicrous. Our law enforcement agencies have innumerable better things to do with their time. This would obviously become a back burner issue, almost certainly leading to delays and confusion. Furthermore, the idea that in the United States, we would need law enforcement to come into our homes for an inspection is insane. This is something you see in totalitarian countries like China and Russia, or how you treat someone who has already proven to be a criminal, not a law abiding citizen. And again, our law enforcement agencies are understaffed and over worked. Do you really expect the police to stop their patrols and investigations to check to see if an individual has a safe for their rifle, regardless of that individual's home situation?

If you need further warning, look to our neighbors to the north. Canada has tried creating registries and banning firearms for nearly 15 years. Not only have tragic mass killings still happened, but the costs have been enormous, well over several billion dollars. And even the Canadian people have pushed back on the bans and confiscations.

At the end of the day, this bill is directed at punishing a group of people you don't believe should have a right to firearm ownership. You are fully entitled to have whatever beliefs you want about the Second Amendment, but you are not entitled to trample on that right from your elected position. The law abiding gun owners of this state are not the problem. The likely tens of thousands of AR-15s in the state are not the problem. If you want to address violence, start at the root of the problem. Our social fabric is falling apart. Families are falling apart. Social media is poisoning our children. Drugs are all too common and accepted (thanks in part to legalizing marijuana, which remains illegal at the federal level). These issues have led to a collapse of the mental health of our society.

Thank you

David Wetzel, M.D.

February 23, 2026

Dear Representatives McDaniel, Tabke, and all members of the MN House,

I am writing as a Minnesota resident, and your constituent, to strongly urge you to oppose any proposed ban on commonly owned semi-automatic firearms, standard-capacity magazines, or similar legislation including HF 3433 and HF 3402.

Banning commonly owned semi-automatic rifles or standard magazines lacks grounding in the text of the Second Amendment, which protects the right of the people to keep and bear arms without distinguishing among classes of firearms in common lawful use. Many of the items proposed for prohibition are widely owned by law-abiding citizens for lawful purposes such as self-defense, recreation, and sport shooting. Additionally, crime data often fail to capture defensive firearm uses, which can deter or stop crimes without a shot being fired, thereby underrepresenting the public safety benefits of lawful gun ownership. As you are aware, criminals, by definition, do not comply with existing gun laws anyway, and adding new prohibitions is unlikely to affect those already willing to break the law.

There are also fiscal and constitutional concerns regarding the proposed legislation. If the bans were to become law, challenges would likely be extensive and costly, potentially tying the measures up in court for years and requiring significant public resources to defend—an important consideration as Minnesota faces projections of a budget deficit in the coming years. Some critics argue that recent controversies involving federal agencies such as the Department of Homeland Security and Immigration and Customs Enforcement underscore the importance of maintaining strong constitutional protections for individual rights, including firearm ownership. From this perspective, broad bans risk burdening lawful citizens while offering uncertain benefits to public safety and may ultimately prove both ineffective and expensive.

Sincerely,

Thomas Finke

Shakopee, MN

Written testimony of

Thomas C. Gallagher – phone: 612 333-1500

Website and blog: *GallagherDefense.com*

Minneapolis Criminal Defense Attorney

Minnesota Gun Law CLE course instructor

Minnesota Gun Owner's Caucus Member

HF3433, Tues, Feb 24, 2026 – House Public Safety Finance and Policy, Companion: SF3654. “Possession of semiautomatic military-style assault weapons banned, and criminal penalties provided,” felony, fourth amendment violations.

HF 3402, Tues, Feb 24, 2026 – House Public Safety Finance and Policy, Companion: SF3714. “Possession of large-capacity ammunition magazines banned,” felony.

Testimony

I am a criminal defense attorney based in Minneapolis. I oppose these Bills for the following reasons:

Over-criminalization: In the United States today, a person cannot possibly read all of the statutes now in effect in a single lifetime. The U.S. incarceration rate is significantly higher than other developed nations, with even individual U.S. states often exceeding national rates of other countries.

The U.S. holds roughly 20% of the world's prisoners despite having only 5% of the global population. We have too many laws. And our impulse to order our society by the brute force of the State and its laws has led to unintended consequences.

We need fewer criminal laws, not more.

Disparate impact based on race: Gun crime laws and their enforcement have a disparate impact based on race, with evidence showing that African Americans, Hispanics, and other people of color are disproportionately affected by laws criminalizing people with guns. These laws lead to higher rates of incarceration for minorities, and have historic roots in explicitly “Jim Crowe” and racist policies.

Most of the people who call me for help as a criminal defense attorney, facing “Prohibited Person in Possession of a Firearm” charges have been African-Americans – more than 90%, even though only 18% of the Minneapolis population African-American. Rather than legislatively manufacturing more “criminals” with more Prohibition-on-possession laws, we should be reversing them. We should be *repealing* laws that make victimless possession a crime, and disproportionately send Black people to prison for simple possession.

“Gun control” Prohibition laws are *“the New Jim Crowe.”*

Civil rights: The legislature should be advancing the constitutional, civil rights of the People, not infringing upon them by targeting us for criminal prosecution. Since the beginning of written history, and likely before that, the history of slavery has had a defining characteristic – disarmament. Slaves were not allowed to possess weapons.

In ancient Sparta, a helot (slave) possessing a weapon was considered a severe threat to the state, resulting in immediate execution or severe punishment, often fatal. Because the helot population significantly outnumbered Spartan citizens, possession of weaponry was viewed as an act of rebellion. And in medieval England, free men (as opposed to serfs and foreigners) possessed weapons.

In colonial America, the right to bear arms was deeply rooted in natural law – specifically the inherent rights of self-preservation and self-defense, stemming from life, liberty, and property. We viewed it as a fundamental, pre-existing right to protect ourselves against aggressors, often considered the “fourth” natural right.

And among the rights of citizens, the right to arms is the most foundational, and most valuable. These Bills that would manufacture criminals out of people for their firearms and magazines undermine this vital civil right, and so should be stopped.

Civil rights to personal firearm possession and use is the most important civil rights struggle of our era.

Public Safety: I am one of the many people in Minneapolis with a connection to Annunciation Catholic Church, where as a child I was a member and Catechism student. We should act to prevent, stop and punish violent crime. Blaming the gun, however, is not

only ineffective, it is dangerous. After all, the only way to prevent and stop violent crime is to address the cause. Addressing non-causative artifacts not only does nothing to diminish the actual causes of violent crime, it diverts attention and resources away from actions that can reduce violent crime. Further, laws to manufacture criminals out of people for their firearms and magazines, serve to disarm those who may comply with those laws and deprive them of the means to defend themselves from armed, violent criminals.

Gun Safety: Rather than legislation banning firearms and magazines, we should support legislation that would increase citizen familiarity and use of firearms, in families, schools, and in our communities. This increases good safety habits and practice. It would help counter the too frequent display of misuse of weapons and display of violent crimes in entertainment media, to which those unfamiliar with firearms are particularly vulnerable. And supporting individuals' right to arms empowers our personal security, and so discourages predatory, violent criminals.

Conclusion: Please oppose and vote down these Prohibition Bills, HF3433, SF3654, HF 3402, and SF3714, that would manufacture criminals out of good people for their firearms and magazines.

February 23, 2026

House Public Safety Committee

Subject: Strongly Oppose HF 3433 & HF 3402

Dear Committee Members,

As a law-abiding Minnesotan who owns firearms for self-defense, hunting, and sport, I urge you to **vote NO on HF 3433 and HF 3402.**

These bills would turn responsible owners into felons overnight by banning commonly owned semi-automatic rifles and standard-capacity magazines that we legally purchased and use responsibly.

Here are some of the key impacts on law-abiding citizens:

- Forced surrender, destruction, modification, or removal of valuable property.
- Egregious penalties of up to 5 years prison/\$25,000 fine for infractions.
- Reduced self-defense effectiveness, while criminals ignore the bans.
- Thousands in lost value; no transfers or inheritance of legally owned firearms.
- Heavy government oversight (registration, unknown fees, inspections, strict use limits) for grandfathered items.
- No real crime reduction, only burdens for honest Minnesotans who've committed no crimes.

These measures violate rights and safety without stopping actual gun crimes. Protect responsible gun owners.

Vote NO on both bills.

Sincerely,

Thomas Nelson
Saint Paul, MN

Hi,

I am writing to express my opposition to HF 3402, the proposed ban on possession of magazines holding more than 10 rounds, and HF 3433, the proposed semi-automatic rifle ban.

These bills would negatively impact many law-abiding citizens in Minnesota, including loved members of my own family and community, who have worked diligently to comply with existing firearm laws and who contribute positively to our state. The proposed restrictions would place additional burdens on responsible individuals without addressing the root causes of violence.

I am concerned that these measures could affect the general wellbeing and sense of safety of responsible citizens across Minnesota. I respectfully urge you to carefully consider the consequences of these bills and the impact they would have on lawful gun owners.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best,

Tiara Campbell

Tim Olson
Saint Paul, Minnesota

Minnesota House Public Safety Committee
Minnesota House of Representatives
Saint Paul, Minnesota

February 23, 2026

Opposition to HF3433 and HF3402

I want to express strong opposition to HF3433 and HF3402.

I oppose these bills because they do not meaningfully address crime and instead impose punitive measures that will turn hundreds of thousands of peaceable Minnesotans into felons.

These proposals would criminalize items in common use and facilitate warrantless searches of peaceable Minnesotans' homes.

The penalty for noncompliance with these bills is outsized and cruel when compared to violent crimes. Compliance similarly carries an unjust set of restrictions that results in the destruction of legally acquired and possessed personal property or a near limitless potential for government auditing and intrusion.

These bills have been designed to; criminalize the peaceful, financially burden the needy, disarm the public while further tilting the balance of power toward the state, and do nothing to solve crime.

I urge you to vote no to HF3433 and HF3402.

V/R
Tim Olson

Monday, February 23, 2026

Dear Ms. McDaniel,

I'm writing as a law-abiding gun owner to vehemently oppose HF 3433 and 3402.

While I wish to remain respectful, I do have to say I find it amazing the things our legislature is up to when I'm working full-time and assuming their role is to protect, not limit, my 2nd Amendment rights. I realize the price of freedom is eternal vigilance, but in Minnesota defending one's 2A rights could easily be a full-time job.

Regarding HF 3433, this bill essentially makes all semi-automatic firearms illegal in Minnesota. Surely the bill's authors and supporters realize how quickly this would run afoul of the Constitution. This legislation places a huge burden on people who have hurt no one with their semi-automatic weapons. Until activist prosecutors like Mary Moriarty are willing to prosecute genuine gun crime, kindly don't make me a felon for simply possessing a specific type of firearm.

Regarding HF 3402, limiting the size of gun magazines, please see above. My primary concern is that a new class of gun criminal is being created from whole cloth. If law enforcement isn't willing (or perhaps more accurately, allowed) to enforce current gun crime, how would they suddenly find resources to enforce this? I demand that every firearm type and magazine size remain available to me in case I need to defend myself against criminals emboldened by lax enforcement of existing laws.

I understand that both these bills are in response to last year's school shooting. While this was indeed a tragedy, the cynic in me wonders why this is what it takes to get legislators to act when that many people die in an average month, if not week, on the streets of Minneapolis with nary a word of acknowledgement from legislators, city councils, mayors, activists, and protestors. Not to mention, my understanding is the shooter was of the trans ideology which is increasingly being represented in mass shootings. This and other mental health issues seem worth exploring before we limit people's Constitutional rights.

To the authors and supporters of these bills: Don't make me a criminal for merely owning a particular type of firearm or magazine. Prosecute to the full extent of the law people who commit crimes with guns. Only by doing so will you find consensus and see compliance.

Sincerely,

Tom Bonnett
2143 Aztec Lane
Mendota Heights, MN 55120
651-387-1492

Good morning,

I wanted to reach out regarding two separate bills that are on the docket.. bills HF 3433 and HF 3402. I strongly oppose these bills, as they are not only unconstitutional, but they would affect all of our lives here in Minnesota as homeowners and sportsman. I would specifically like to tell you how that would affect our lives. I am an avid Predator Hunter here in Minnesota. I protect a lot of Farms and hobby Farms as well as rural land owners properties from Coyote and Fox problems. Coyotes are spreading mange and parvo and distemper like crazy out here to not only other coyotes and fox, but to domestic animals as well. Quite commonly we will use our modern day sporting rifles as they are the best for the job out here. They are no different than any other semi automatic rifle but I shouldn't be made to go buy a different rifle because it is our right as Americans to own and possess these items and it would greatly change the way we hunt and help land owners. Beyond that for those who are using them for home and self-defense... the bad guys with the guns aren't going to be turning theirs in or changing the way they go about their day using their illegally possessed firearms. If there is more than one intruder.. We should be able to protect ourselves and our families accordingly especially if it takes more than 10 rounds to do so. I ask from the bottom of my heart and for the love of all of my family and kiddos living under my roof that you reconsider what you're about to vote on and what you're asking us as legal gun owners and Minnesota residents to do and how it would affect our lives.

99% of us play by the rules. Please do not pass a bill that would make 99% of us feel as though we own something illegal that we should not have to be afraid of owning or have to put up in our safes and never used again for our own protection or for the sporting activities that we use them for. I have a family.. many of us use them for hunting and sporting and target practice.. we should not be limited to the amount of ammo we can put in the magazine or what kind of rifle it is that magazine is going into. Semi automatic is one pull of the trigger per round fired.. many many rifles and shotguns are the same with or without a differing grip on it.. makes absolutely zero difference what kind of grip it has. So making one illegal to own.. makes zero sense and only takes away freedoms we all DESERVE AND ENJOY and our family members have fought and died for in wars. The Constitution is the constitution and the second amendment shall not be infringed.

I have never before in my life reached out to anybody, but I feel strongly that my rights are about to be trampled. I beg you to do the right thing when it's time to vote and that is not to put us law, abiding citizens and our wants and needs on the back burner.

I pray you make it a good day take into account all of us who have done nothing wrong to deserve this kind of treatment.

Tony Ciatti

Buffalo Minnesota
Father of two amazing daughters!

Honored Representatives of the Minnesota State House of Representatives,

My name is Trenton Schoenborn, and I am a resident of Minneapolis, Minnesota working in the field of higher education. I am offering this testimony in opposition to H.F. 3433 and H.F. 3402. It is not an exaggeration to say that we live in unique and uncertain times in Minnesota. It is also not an exaggeration to say that many Minnesotans find our circumstances troubling and look to our leaders to navigate an increasingly turbulent landscape.

As a proud and hard-working Minnesotan, I have watched this year so far unfold with concern and frustration at the wielding of excessive force by our federal government and the unwillingness of our state leadership to address the matter frankly and assertively. Minnesota citizens are faced with federal agents imposing illegal searches of their residences in contravention of the 4th Amendment, and representatives of the federal government threatening their 1st Amendment rights. Minnesota's representatives have recognized these perils openly and consistently.

It perplexes and concerns me then that the rights of Minnesotans to the 2nd Amendment are being threatened by the stipulations of H.F. 3433 and H.F. 3402 as written. The addition of language imposing warrantless compliance searches for 'safe storage' and restricting grandfathering only raises further concerns about overreach in a time of imperiled rights. All rights that Minnesotans enjoy should be protected by our state legislature at a time when federal legislation proves to be a threat to said rights. To strip away or endanger those rights serves to render me and my fellow Minnesotans more vulnerable and deprived. It would reduce my confidence in the ability of my legislators to serve me, and deprive me of a valuable and safe set of tools for the protection of my rights that I treat with the utmost care and responsibility.

I oppose these bills for the above reasons and more, and offer my testimony as a proud citizen of the state of Minnesota. I encourage the legislators of the Minnesota House of Representatives to heed the testimony presented to them regarding these bills and to exert themselves in service of their constituents. Your consideration of this matter and our concerns is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully,

Trenton Schoenborn

MS McDaniel –

I am writing to strongly urge legislators to oppose any proposed ban on commonly owned semi-automatic firearms, standard-capacity magazines, or similar legislation.

These firearms and magazines are used every day by peaceable Minnesotans for self-defense, hunting, sport shooting, and training — and they are clearly protected under the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

I strongly feel that banning them will not make Minnesota safer. It will only punish law-abiding gun owners while doing nothing to stop criminals who ignore the law.

As your constituent, I expect you to vote NO on any attempt to ban semi-automatic firearms or magazines.

I am a member and supporter of the Minnesota Gun Owners Caucus — and they speak for me at the Capitol. But today, I'm speaking directly for myself: I want you to oppose any such legislation.

Instead of wasting time and money on unconstitutional gun control, please focus on the fraud that is literally robbing the taxpayers in this state.

Wayne Kaul

1015 105th Street W

Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077

Subject: Written Testimony Opposing HF 3433 and HF 3402

February 23, 2026

Ellen McDaniel

Committee Administrator

Minnesota House of Representatives

DFL Caucus

95 University Avenue W. St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Ms. McDaniel,

My name is Will Cattrysse, and I am a resident of Saint Paul, Minnesota. As a law-abiding citizen and responsible firearm owner, I am writing to strongly oppose HF 3433, which seeks to ban semi-automatic rifles, and HF 3402, which imposes a total ban on the possession of magazines holding more than 10 rounds. These bills represent a severe infringement on the Second Amendment rights of Minnesotans and would have detrimental impacts on myself and countless other law-abiding individuals in our state.

First, regarding HF 3433, a ban on semi-automatic rifles would criminalize the ownership of some of the most common and widely used firearms in America. These rifles are essential for self-defense, hunting, and recreational shooting. They are not "assault weapons" as some might label them, but rather standard tools protected under the Constitution. This legislation ignores the reality that semi-automatic firearms have been in common use for over a century and are owned by millions of Americans without incident. By banning them, the bill would turn responsible citizens like me into felons overnight for possessing items that are constitutionally protected. This directly violates the Second Amendment, as affirmed in the Supreme Court's ruling in *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc. v. Bruen* (2022), which requires that any firearm regulation must be consistent with the nation's historical tradition of firearm regulation. There is no historical precedent for banning an entire class of commonly used firearms like this, making HF 3433 unconstitutional on its face.

Similarly, HF 3402's total ban on magazines holding more than 10 rounds is an egregious overreach that punishes law-abiding Minnesotans without enhancing public safety. Standard-capacity magazines—those holding 11 or more rounds—are integral to many firearms and are used daily for lawful purposes, including home defense where multiple rounds may be necessary to protect one's family from threats. This bill would not only prohibit future sales but also ban possession entirely, forcing owners to surrender or destroy property they legally acquired. This creates an undue burden on individuals like myself, who rely on these magazines for effective self-defense, and it would affect hunters, competitive shooters, and collectors across the state. Again, this measure fails the Bruen test, as there is no longstanding historical

tradition of limiting magazine capacity in this manner. The Second Amendment protects the right to keep and bear arms, including the components necessary for their effective use, and HF 3402 blatantly disregards this fundamental right.

These bills do nothing to address the root causes of crime, such as mental health issues or criminal enforcement, and instead target law-abiding citizens who follow the rules. They would erode trust in government, increase non-compliance, and waste resources on enforcing unconstitutional laws rather than protecting our communities. As a Minnesotan who values freedom and personal responsibility, I urge the committee to reject HF 3433 and HF 3402 in their entirety.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Will Cattrysse

Saint Paul, Minnesota

Date: February 23, 2026

To: House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee **Re:** Written Testimony Opposing HF 3433 and HF 3402 **Hearing Date:** February 24, 2026

To Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is James Federline, and I am a resident of Maple Grove and Hennepin County. I am writing to express my strong opposition to HF 3433 and HF 3402. I speak to you today as a law-abiding Minnesotan, a multiple Permits to Carry holder, and a responsible gun owner who has spent many years and dollars adhering to every background check, training requirement, and safety regulation mandated by our state.

“Sudden Criminality” and the “Model Citizen” Dilemma

For years, the US States of Minnesota, Utah, and Florida have vetted me as a permit to carry holder. I’ve been federally vetted when I have made firearm purchases. I have submitted to federal and multiple states’ fingerprinting, federal and multiple states’ background checks, and multiple types of training to ensure that I am a “model citizen” capable of carrying a firearm for self-protection. This tradition goes all the way back to when I was 12 years old and took a hunting firearm safety class in my Minnesota hometown 42 years ago, where my very first ballistic rifle was a semi-automatic rifle with a capacity in excess of 10 rounds.

Yet, under HF 3433 and HF 3402, that same status and heritage is disregarded, and is replaced by a promise to identify me as a felon, backed by the full-power of the very state I’ve grown up in and whose firearm-related laws I have always followed.

HF 3402, in particular, offers no grandfather clause for magazines holding more than 10 rounds. These magazines have been sold as standard equipment for decades. By July 1, 2027, this bill would effectively turn me into a felon for possessing property that was legally purchased.

These bills create a “sudden criminality” that targets the very Minnesotans who have exercised a constitutional right and followed all laws, while doing nothing to deter those who already operate outside of the law.

The equipment targeted by these bills—specifically commonly owned semi-automatic rifles and standard-capacity magazines—are the modern equivalents of the self-loading firearms Americans have owned for over a century, kept and used daily for self & home defense, sport shooting, and hunting.

Financial Burden, Uncompensated Taking, and Unwarranted Search

Furthermore, these bills represent a significant financial blow to law-abiding Minnesota residents and their families. Between semi-automatic rifles and standard capacity magazines I have acquired over a lifetime, I have invested thousands of dollars in my private property and legal

conformance. HF 3402 requires me to destroy this property, surrender it without compensation, or remove it from the state. This is an unconstitutional "taking" of private property that penalizes citizens for the state's changing political winds.

Additionally, the registration and "safe storage" inspection requirements in HF 3433 impose unknown costs onto multiple parties and invasive government oversight into the private homes of citizens who have committed no crime.

Legal Precedent and Constitutional Conflict

Finally, I urge this committee to consider the current legal landscape. Following the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *NYSRPA v. Bruen*, the "common use" test is the law of the land. Semi-automatic rifles like the AR-15 and magazines holding more than 10 rounds are owned by millions of Americans for lawful purposes, placing them squarely under the protection of the Second Amendment.

Recent and ongoing litigation—such as *Barnett v. Raoul* (challenging Illinois' ban) and *Duncan v. Bonta* (challenging California's magazine ban)—demonstrates that these types of categorical bans are increasingly being found unconstitutional by federal courts. Passing these bills will not improve public safety; it will only invite years of expensive, taxpayer-funded litigation that the State is likely to lose.

I ask you to respect the constitutional rights of your law-abiding constituents. Do not pass legislation that treats permit holders like criminals and mandates the destruction of their legal property. Please vote **NO** on HF 3433 and HF 3402.

Respectfully,

James Federline, Maple Grove, MN [Minnesota Permit to Carry Holder]

RE: Opposition to HF3422 and HF3402 – Assault Weapon and High-Capacity Magazine Ban

I am writing today as a concerned citizen, a veteran, a healthcare worker, and a constituent to express my firm opposition to the proposed ban on "assault weapons" and high-capacity magazines. While I share the urgent desire to address the root causes of violence in our communities, I believe this legislation is a regressive approach that disproportionately harms marginalized groups while failing to address the systemic issues at play.

My opposition is rooted in the following principles:

1. The Disproportionate Impact of Incremental Prohibition

History shows that firearm restrictions are rarely applied equitably. From the Mulford Act to modern sentencing enhancements, gun control measures have historically been used to target, disarm, and over-police Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities. Expanding the scope of what constitutes an "illegal" firearm creates new pretexts for law enforcement interventions in the very communities already struggling under the weight of mass incarceration.

2. Community Self-Defense and Autonomy

For many on the left, the right to bear arms is inextricably linked to the necessity of community self-defense. In an era of rising hate crimes and extremist violence—often directed at LGBTQ+ individuals, religious minorities, and activists—vulnerable populations must not be stripped of the most effective tools for their own protection. A ban on modern semi-automatic rifles—the standard for contemporary defense—places marginalized people at a severe tactical disadvantage against those who would do them harm.

3. Addressing Root Causes Over Symptoms

Focusing on specific types of plastic and metal is a superficial distraction from the material conditions that breed violence. True safety is found in:

- **Universal Healthcare:** Including robust, accessible mental health services.
- **Economic Stability:** Ending poverty and housing insecurity.
- **Community Investment:** Funding restorative justice programs and violence interruption initiatives.

I am a veteran and feel a duty to support and defend my community. Responsible, law-abiding citizens should not be punished for exercising our constitutional rights. Background check laws are already in place. Sufficient restrictions already exist. And, as we saw just

yesterday in St. Paul, criminals will find access to handguns to commit violence regardless of legality.

Criminalizing the tools of violence does not disappear the impulse for violence; it merely shifts the burden onto the legal system. We should be investing in our people, not expanding the criminal code.

I urge you to pivot away from prohibitive measures that expand the carceral state and instead focus on legislation that addresses the socioeconomic disparities driving "despair-based" violence. Please vote **NO** on **HF3422** and **HF3402**.

Sincerely,

Wyatt Palmer
Maple Grove