

Thursday, February 29th

Chair Kelly Moller
Chair Dave Pinto
Minnesota House of Representatives

Chair Moller, Chair Pinto and esteemed members of the House Public Safety Finance and Policy and House Children and Families Committees,

We write today in support of HF4300, Representative Becker-Finn's bill to codify standards for the safe storage of firearms in Minnesota. Comprehensive child access prevention and safe storage laws are an incredibly effective tool to curb gun deaths and injuries among children and teens.

Unsecured guns pose clear safety risks, particularly to children. When guns are not stored safely or securely and they are accessible to unsupervised minors, the risk of death or injury significantly increases. Hundreds of thousands of firearms are also stolen from homes, vehicles, and individuals each year, funneling guns into an underground market where many of them are sold to people who use them to commit violent crimes.

Household guns, often the most easily accessible firearms for youth, are a major source of weapons used in school shootings, youth suicides, and unintentional shooting deaths among children.

We thank Representative Becker-Finn for her work on this important issue, and we encourage members of the House Public Safety Finance and Policy and the House Children and Families Committee to support this bill.

The research is clear: gun laws work. The nation's courts agree: gun laws are fully compatible with the Second Amendment. And the American people have spoken: our weak gun safety laws are killing nearly 40,000 Americans every year. Something must change.