



Tuesday, March 12, 2024

Minnesota House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee
200 State Office Building
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Chair Moller and Members of the Committee,

Protect Minnesota urges the committee to adopt H.F. 3672, legislation that would repeal certain sections of state law that explicitly prevent local governments from passing firearm regulations. Protect Minnesota recognizes that gun violence affects all Minnesotans, irrespective of age, gender-identity, race, or community. As a state-based organization, Protect Minnesota understands that that meaningful gun violence prevention efforts come from communities impacted by gun violence. State preemption laws that forbid a municipality from regulating gun possession beyond state and federal law frustrate the efforts of community leaders to pursue solutions to local gun violence problems.

Protect Minnesota also urges the committee to adopt H.F. 2828, legislation that would allow local governments to prohibit a person from possessing a dangerous weapon on land or in a building owned by the local government. This bill would allow local units of government to ban guns on their premises, and, as with owners of private establishments, the local unit of government would be required to post a sign in entryways that provide notice of a ban. Protect Minnesota strongly supports efforts to allow local governments to reduce the likelihood of gun violence by restricting the possession of firearms on land, or in building, owned by that local government.

Protect Minnesota recognizes that the problem of firearm violence is multi-faceted and requires a variety of solutions. Allowing local officials to protect their communities as they see fit is an important step in reducing local gun violence. We thank Representative Dave Pinto and Representative Samakab Hussein for bringing forward these important gun safety measures.

Sincerely,

Maggiy Emery
Executive Director
Protect Minnesota