

Dear Chair Moller and members of the Public Safety Committee,

I will be testifying before your committee on February 3rd and referring to a Joyce Foundation/George Foundation poll done in Minnesota in 2020. I would like to submit this as evidence that the majority of Minnesotans have consistently supported making our gun laws stronger.

<https://nmcndn.io/e186d21f8c7946a19faed23c3da2f0da/e83d692df02f4532bfc0b0b66c93e566/files/2020-MN-Gun-Violence-Prevention-Polling-Memo.pdf>

I am also including a Minnesota Post poll taken after the Uvalde school shooting that shows majority support for the bills you will be contemplating.

<https://www.minnpost.com/news/2022/06/new-minnpost-poll-shows-majority-support-for-stronger-gun-laws-in-the-state-following-uvalde-massacre/>

I submit to you that for too many years, the loud voices of the corporate gun lobby have silenced the voices of the majority of Minnesotans. Over the years, I have done some blogging and research on the number of Americans and gun owners who belong to the NRA. Here is a good article about the fact that most gun owners don't belong to the NRA. And remember that most gun owners agree with stronger gun laws.

" In an online survey taken before the 2020 elections, Minnesota voters overwhelmingly support efforts to reduce gun violence in this state. A 61 percent majority support "stronger" gun laws; just 9 percent argue for weaker gun laws. Some specific policies including universal background checks and emergency protection orders, also known as a red flag law, generate support north of 85 percent. These levels of support generally hold in the key suburban-exurban part of the state, as well as more culturally conservative parts of Greater Minnesota. Moreover, even among gun owners, these policies generate significant majorities. 1"

<https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2017/07/05/among-gun-owners-nra-members-have-a-unique-set-of-views-and-experiences/#:~:text=Three%2Din%2Dten%20U.S.%20adults,to%20the%20National%20Rifle%20Association.>

It is time for legislators and other elected leaders to do all they can to keep their constituents safe from foreign and domestic dangers. Representing the majority of your constituents is your charge. On the issue of gun violence, that charge is to save lives and prevent families and communities from the devastation that comes from senseless shootings.

My sister, Barbara Lund, was shot and killed in a domestic shooting during a contentious divorce in 1992. I have been advocating for sensible gun laws for 2 decades now. As a victim/survivor I have fought hard to make common sense and reasonable gun laws happen. These laws will not affect the rights of law abiding gun

owners. My family owns guns and I don't know one person with whom I associate that owns guns that objects to these measures.

Please vote yes on HF 14- Criminal Background Checks; HF 15- Extreme Risk Protection Orders; HF 296- Safe Storage and HF 601- Require Gun Owners to Report Lost or Stolen Firearms.

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Former board member of the national board of Brady United Against Gun Violence  
Current board member of Domestic Abuse Intervention Programs, Duluth, Mn.