
T H E M I N N E S O T A
C O U N T Y A T T O R N E Y S
A S S O C I A T I O N

February 1, 2023

To All Members of the Minnesota House of Representatives

Re: HF 14 and HF 15

Dear Members of the Minnesota House of Representatives:

The Minnesota County Attorney's Association (MCAA) supports both HF 14 and HF 15.

We support expanding criminal background checks to sales of handguns and semiautomatic, military-style weapons in private and in internet sales. House File 14 merely provides for an extension of our existing background checks that already occur in legitimate federally sanctioned gun stores. It provides for the same procedure, background checks for purchase, at presently unregulated private gun shows and internet sales.

We also support the Extreme Risk Protective Orders bill (HF 15) which enables law enforcement to seek an extreme risk protection order, a court order to temporarily remove guns from a person in crisis. Almost everyone that owns or possesses firearms are law abiding and responsible. Occasionally, however, we have individuals who make credible threats to the immediate safety of others in the community, and this legislation is needed to protect those threatened individuals. In cases of domestic violence, it may save one life at a time, but in cases where someone is planning a mass shooting, this could save many lives, particularly because criminal investigations sometimes take days, weeks, or months. Too often family, neighbors and police have observed conduct from someone they know – warning signs if you will. This bill allows for the temporary removal of guns from a person in crisis. Each year, there are two to three dozen incidents of domestic violence that lead to the murder of a significant other or an intervenor.

We believe both these bills are a common-sense violence prevention matter that deserves your support.

Sincerely,



Robert Small
Executive Director