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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

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February 25, 2025

Senator Jeff R. Howe  
95 University Avenue W.  
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 2231  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Rep. Matt Bliss  
2nd Floor Centennial Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: SF 624/HF 13

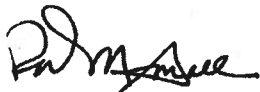
Dear Senator Howe and Representative Bliss:

I am writing to let you know that our Association opposes SF 624 and HF 13 which removes the duty to retreat before a person uses force in self-defense or to defend another. While our Association is concerned about the safety and protection of Minnesota's, there is simply no need to expand our laws in Minnesota dealing with the right of self-defense and the justified use of deadly force. Our current laws adequately protect our law abiding citizens.

Today in Minnesota a person may use deadly force without an obligation to retreat if this is done to prevent the commission of a felony in their home. When a person is not in their home, they can rightfully protect themselves by using deadly force to avert a threat of death or great bodily harm to themselves or another, provided that they first attempt to avoid the danger if reasonably possible. In all situations, Minnesota's law today properly requires that the decision to use deadly force be reasonable and necessary given the gravity of the danger faced. These current laws in our state make common sense, are appropriate and should not be expanded as SF 624 and HF 13 will do.

Under the proposals contained in SF 624 and HF 13, the duty to retreat when exercising the right of self-defense or defense of others would be eliminated regardless of whether a reasonable probability of retreat to avoid the danger exists.

It is for all these reasons that we oppose these bills.  
Sincerely,



Robert M. Small  
Executive Director

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