



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 HF601, Representative Her's bill to enshrine in Minnesota statute common sense reporting practices around lost and stolen firearms in Minnesota. With gun thefts on the rise, laws requiring gun owners and dealers to report lost or stolen guns can significantly help prevent gun trafficking.

Every year, hundreds of thousands of guns are lost or stolen in America, with one gun stolen from an individual owner every two minutes. Stolen guns can be diverted to the illegal gun market, where they are used to fuel crime across the country. Lost and stolen reporting laws help reduce gun trafficking by requiring individuals to report loss or theft to law enforcement shortly after discovering it.

Laws that require firearm owners to notify law enforcement about the loss or theft of a firearm serve several public safety functions. These laws help deter gun trafficking and straw purchasing, and help law enforcement recover and return lost or stolen guns to their rightful owners. They can also help law enforcement disarm individuals who become ineligible to possess firearms.

We thank Representative Her 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.