

I am asking for your support of the proven, evidence-based, common-sense gun safety bills introduced in the first day of session.

I am the mother of three daughters. The oldest was born in 1999, the year of the Columbine shooting. She is now a nurse at Abbott Hospital. I pray every day that she will not be the victim of a workplace shooting like the one in Tulsa last year or (closer to home) like the one in Buffalo, Minn., not too long ago.

My middle daughter is a junior at the University of Minnesota. This fall she lived in Dinkytown, and I thank God that she made it through the semester safely.

My youngest daughter is a senior at Washburn High School. She was at the Mall of America on New Year's Eve 2021 when there was a shooting, and she was at the State Fair this past summer for one of the shootings. That is too close and too often.

I co-lead the Minneapolis local group of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America. I am hopeful that some laws will be passed this session to reduce the amount of gun violence in Minnesota.

Guns are the leading cause of death for children and teens in Minnesota.

Passing common sense legislation like background checks on all gun sales and a strong red flag law are proven ways to prevent gun violence and keep our communities safe. I look forward to working with you to enact these important measures.

Leah Kondes  
Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America  
Minneapolis local group co-lead