

April 15, 2024

Sen. John Marty
Chair, Senate Finance Committee
95 University Avenue W.
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3235
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: SF 4312 - Gustafson: Standards for the safe storage of firearms and criminal penalties for failing to meet these standards establishment

Dear Chair Marty and Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

The National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) represents over 10,000 retailers, distributors and manufacturers in the firearm trades. We have serious concerns about the proposals to criminalize possession of firearms in certain situations as a result of these amendments.

The proposal appears to immediately make industry standard business practices criminal in the State of Minnesota. We are certain that industry standards in the manufacturer, shipping, distribution, and sales of firearms were not the intended focus of the proposals. However, there are no such exemptions provided. As written the bill is incompatible with US Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives (ATF) approved lawful commerce of firearms. Manufacturing facilities, shippers, and other points in the chain of commerce will find it virtually impossible to be in compliance with the bill.

We have other broad, lingering concerns that will apply to private gun owners of all types. This bill creates new felonies and aggressively criminalizes individuals unknowingly. It is a bad precedent. We urge you to table this proposal. It is neither right, nor ready for consideration. Please reject it.

Sincerely,



Nephi Cole
Director Government Relations-State Affairs
The National Shooting Sports Foundation

CC:

Sen. Heather Gustafson