

Sherry Kempf
Retried Teacher - St. Paul Public Schools
SF 5153 and SF 0733

Dear Judiciary and Public Safety Committee:

I am a retired teacher and mother of two daughters. I have experienced growing fear over the last twenty years as a mother, teacher and private citizen who is literally in danger of being affected by gun violence at any time - as a victim, bystander or loved one. While my fear of gun violence is real, many of my BIPOC students and friends, especially those living in under-resourced parts of our state, face a much higher risk of being the victim of gun violence. This is morally wrong and runs counter to the equity that Minnesota proclaims to value. I believe it's important for Minnesota to pass common sense laws that ensure all its citizens can live without the constant and real threat of gun violence.

I strongly urge you to pass SF 5153 and SF 0733. There need to be strong penalties in place for people who transfer firearms to people who have been found to be ineligible to possess them. As we saw in the tragic killing of three public safety officers last month, it is vitally important that we crack down on this practice so that the common sense gun laws that we do have in place are actually working to keep guns out of the hands of those that should not have them.

Thank you,

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