



March 27, 2025

Minnesota Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee

Chair Latz, Ranking Member Limmer, and Members of the Committee,

I write today in strong support of SF 2746 on behalf of Giffords, the national gun violence prevention group led by former Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords. Our team brings decades of political, legal, and policy expertise to the fight for gun safety and is a leader in the movement to end gun violence in America.

Crime gun intelligence tools like eTrace and the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) are essential to quickly and effectively solving gun crimes and identifying firearm traffickers, and they are available at no cost to state and local law enforcement. Using eTrace, law enforcement are able to identify the purchasers of crime guns and share that information with police across the state; NIBIN further allows law enforcement to compare ballistic evidence recovered at various crime scenes. Together, these programs improve a state's ability to both solve individual gun crimes and reduce the supply of illegal guns into communities.

However, many law enforcement agencies—including over half of agencies in Minnesota—do not make full use of these tools, often due to lack of awareness or inconsistent departmental policies.¹ As a result, it is more difficult for Minnesota law enforcement to trace crime guns and identify firearm traffickers to keep these weapons out of our communities. SF 2746 will address this issue and support law enforcement in Minnesota by ensuring that agencies are enrolled in and making use of eTrace and NIBIN, allowing them to better trace crime guns and share information about them with other law enforcement in the state. In doing this, SF 2746 will put law enforcement officials in the best position to efficiently identify violent criminals and firearm traffickers.

We all share the goal of reducing violence in our communities, and SF 2746 will help achieve that goal by ensuring law enforcement's access to all available tools. I urge the Committee to support SF 2746 and thank each member for their service to Minnesota.

Sincerely,

Spencer Myers
State and Local Policy Attorney
Giffords Law Center

¹ The Joyce Foundation, 2024, *Optimizing Crime Gun Intelligence: An Analysis of Current Usage and Recommendations for Improved Impact*, https://assets.joycefdn.org/content/uploads/Joyce_Crime-Gun-Intelligence-Tools_July-2024.pdf.