

Bryan Strawser
Roseville, MN

September 12, 2025

Senate Gun Violence Prevention Working Group

Senator Latz and Senator Mohamed

As a peaceable Minnesotan, I must begin by expressing my firm opposition to the continued push for restrictive gun control measures.

These laws have consistently proven ineffective at curbing criminal violence while infringing upon the fundamental rights of law-abiding citizens.

The U.S. Supreme Court has made clear in *District of Columbia v. Heller* and *McDonald v. Chicago* that the right to keep and bear arms is an individual, fundamental right, and in *Bruen* the Court reaffirmed that governments cannot restrict that right absent historical precedent.

More recently, *Worth v. Jacobson* confirmed that Minnesotans aged 18 to 20 cannot be stripped of their right to bear arms merely due to their age.

Pursuing new restrictions in defiance of these rulings is both unconstitutional and a misuse of public resources.

Instead, I urge this body to take up measures that would actually support peaceable Minnesotans and enhance public safety:

- **Eliminate the sales tax on safes and storage devices.** We should incentivize secure storage, not make it more expensive for families to be responsible, or dictate specifically how self-defense firearms should be stored.
- **Reduce permit-to-carry fees.** Exercising a constitutional right should not be burdened by excessive government fees that fall hardest on working-class Minnesotans. One county in Minnesota has made this happen at \$35.00 – that should be our new maximum fee.
- **End funding for so-called “violence interrupters.”** These programs have failed to demonstrate measurable results. Those dollars would be far better spent on funding additional School Resource Officers who can protect our children.

- **Eliminate the taxpayer-funded gun control law firm at the University of Minnesota Law School.** Public money should not be used to defend unconstitutional gun restrictions or sue lawful businesses like Fleet Farm and Glock.
- **Refuse funding for partisan gun control “research centers.”** Taxpayer resources should not be diverted into one-sided political advocacy.
- **Remove the activist appointed as the Red Flag Coordinator at the Department of Public Safety.** Entrusting extreme anti-gun activists with implementing policies that strip Minnesotans of their rights without due process is unacceptable.

At the end of the day, gun control measures that punish peaceable citizens are not the solution.

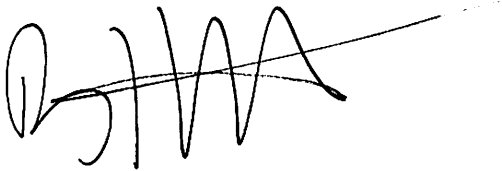
Fundamental public safety requires:

- Expanding access to mental health care,
- Protecting soft targets like schools,
- And ensuring violent criminals—not law-abiding Minnesotans—are the ones who end up behind bars.

Minnesotans deserve policies that respect constitutional freedoms while targeting actual sources of violence.

I urge you to reject further restrictions on the rights of the law-abiding and instead pursue measures that will truly make our communities safer.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bryan Strawser', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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