

January 23, 2024

Testimony to the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs

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BILL NUMBER: HCR 5020

OPPONENT.

WRITTEN ONLY TESTIMONY

Dear Chair & members of the committee,

I am writing to voice my opposition to HCR 5020 as it could expand gun access to dangerous individuals, including domestic abusers and limit the ability of law enforcement to intervene if convicted felons possess dangerous and illegal devices.

Kansans suffer gun violence at rates above the national average, and guns are the leading cause of death among kids and teens in Kansas. Parents, grandparents and even hunters and other gun owners want laws that would keep guns out of the hands of dangerous individuals. Conversely, this amendment could allow convicted felons and domestic abusers to own guns, a sure threat to the safety of all Kansans. This is not a hypothetical: when similar amendments passed in other states, convicted felons and domestic abusers sued for access to guns.

Our state can protect the Second Amendment while also ensuring that dangerous individuals do not have access to guns by passing and enforcing reasonable gun laws. We continue to do a disservice to our communities by making it easier for criminals and mentally unstable individuals to access deadly weapons.

As a concerned parent and citizen, I'm asking you to vote no on HCR 5020.

Kathy Kappes-Sum

Shawnee