

March 7, 2024

Testimony to the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs

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BILL NUMBER: HB 2803 Gun Rights Preservation Act

PROPONENT, OPPONENT, or NEUTRAL: Opponent

ORAL or WRITTEN ONLY TESTIMONY: WRITTEN

Dear Chair & members of the committee,

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to bill HB 2803. Why is this bill even being brought to a hearing, when advocates were assured that no bills like this would be considered this session after the shootings at the SuperBowl rally?

The majority of Kansans want common ground gun reform, not laws that make it easier for guns to be part of our community. Accidental death by firearms is now a leading cause of death for children and teenagers in our country, and Kansas gun safety laws are some of the most lax in the country. Passage of this bill is unnecessary and is not what your constituents want.

Bills like this in Missouri have already been deemed unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court; why would Kansas legislators choose to attempt to usurp federal law when it comes to guns, knowing that the bill will be overturned? This bill is a waste of legislative time and my taxpayer dollars.

My daughter was involved in the shooting at the Jewish Community Center in Overland Park, which took place 10 years ago this April. Since then gun laws in Kansas have been loosened, not made stronger, which is an insult to my family and to all Kansas families who have been the victims of gun violence since then. Please vote NO on bill HB 2803.

Lisa McGahey Veglahn

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