

Chairman Barker and Members of the House State and Federal Affairs Committee,

My name is Leanna Barclay and I am testifying in opposition to HB 2059. This bill would only increase the risk of gun violence in our communities.

Passage of HB 2059 would put even more guns in the public arena. As we all know, more guns mean more gun violence. Research shows that 18-, 19- and 20-year-olds commit gun homicides at a rate nearly 4 times higher than adults 21 and older. Why would we want to put guns in their hands?

As an anti-gun violence advocate, I know that it is possible to pass reasonable laws that have been proven to significantly reduce gun injuries and death. HB 2059 is not that type of law. This bill would only undermine the common-sense safety laws that keep Kansas communities safe when people carry concealed firearms in public.

In the last year, we have all watched a huge surge in gun and ammunition sales followed by a dramatic increase in gun death and violence in our Covid-19 ravaged country. This is a time to look for responsible gun legislation. This is a time for lawmakers to put the security of their constituents first and reject these dangerous proposals. I urge you to vote down HB 2059!

Thank you,

Leanna Barclay

Shawnee, Ks 66216