

Dear Members of the Committee:


I am writing to support HCR5020. As a born-and-raised Kansan with degrees from Kansas State University, I am very concerned about securing and maintaining our rights as citizens. I currently serve as the founding faculty sponsor for the KU Student Second Amendment Association.

As a professional economist who has conducted research in the economics of regulation, I am very familiar with the methods the federal government has used to limit our freedoms. In this case, threats to our right to bear arms come in the form of sneaky regulations that seek to limit access to accessories and other items that allow Kansans to properly exercise our right to bear arms.

While some say that components or ammunition shouldn't be included under this right, the economics say otherwise. These items are complementary to firearms. If regulators or the federal legislature make ammunition or components more expensive or restrict our use of them, they are effectively restricting or harming the rights of lower-income Kansans. By analogy, regulations that make gasoline or new parts more expensive harm our ability to use our vehicles.

It's clear that HCR5020 is a necessary protection of our God-given and government-recognized rights. Please vote in favor of this bill now and on the House floor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Levi A. Russell".

Levi A. Russell, PhD
Ottawa, Kansas