



To: Public Safety/Judiciary Omnibus Bill Conference Committee

From: Minnesota Law Enforcement Coalition

Date: May 14, 2019

On behalf of the members of the Minnesota Law Enforcement Coalition, we write to urge the public safety/judiciary omnibus bill conference committee to include language expanding background checks on gun sales in Minnesota in the final conference-report.

Minnesota law enforcement believes these provisions protect our communities and officers from gun violence while also respecting the Second Amendment rights of Minnesotans. The language included in the public safety/judiciary omnibus bill passed by the House does both of these things.

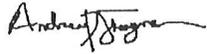
These provisions were thoughtfully developed by lawmakers with input from law enforcement and other stakeholders and are tailored to have the most strategic impact on gun violence while minimizing the burden to law-abiding gun owners. For example, the proposed policy exempts all types of shotguns and hunting rifles from the background check requirement, and includes multiple exemptions for temporary hunting transfers and transfers between immediate family members. We also believe the additional discretion for chief law enforcement officers to address serious mental health episodes by limiting access to firearms are critical and will make our communities safer.

As the committee continues working on the final public safety/judiciary budget agreement, we urge you to include the House language expanding background checks on gun sales in Minnesota.

Sincerely,

Dennis J. Flaherty
Executive Director, Minnesota Police & Peace Officers Association

Bill Hutton
Executive Director, Minnesota Sheriffs' Association



Andy Skoogman
Executive Director, Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association



Robert Small
Executive Director, Minnesota County Attorneys Association