



House Judiciary Finance & Civil Law
March 15, 2026

Re: Written Testimony Opposing HF4081

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Minnesota Gun Owners Caucus and our members across the state, we submit this written testimony regarding HF4081.

First and foremost, we wish to make clear that **we oppose HF4081 in its entirety**. The bill proposes sweeping restrictions on commonly owned firearms and raises significant constitutional, policy, and practical concerns. For these reasons, we strongly believe the bill should not move forward.

We also believe it is important to note the procedural context in which this bill has arrived before this committee.

Earlier this session, a substantially similar proposal failed to advance from the House Public Safety Committee after a tie vote. Rather than allowing the committee's decision to stand, the bill author has introduced a new bill referred to this committee, effectively **bypassing the tied vote in the Public Safety Committee**.

While we recognize that bill referrals are ultimately within the authority of House leadership, this maneuver raises serious concerns about circumventing the normal committee process and undermines the legislature's credibility.

That said, we understand the committee has requested testimony specifically on provisions within its jurisdiction concerning **data privacy**, including **Article 1, Section 2, Subdivision 6**, and **Article 2, Section 1**.

With respect to those provisions, the bill classifies certain data relating to firearm ownership and certification as **private data on individuals** under Minnesota's data practices framework. In general, we agree that **personal information related to lawful firearm ownership should not be public data**. Firearm ownership records are sensitive personal information, and treating such information as private is consistent with longstanding public safety and privacy considerations.

However, while classifying such data as private is the correct approach to protecting individual privacy, **that limited point does not mitigate the broader concerns raised by the bill as a whole**.

HF4081 would impose sweeping prohibitions affecting commonly owned firearms owned by law-abiding Minnesotans. The Minnesota Gun Owners Caucus firmly believes this legislation represents an unjustified infringement on the constitutional right to keep and bear arms and would create significant legal and practical problems if enacted.

For these reasons, **we respectfully urge the committee to vote no and prevent HF4081 from advancing**.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bryan Strawser
Chair

Anna Leamy
Director, Government Relations & Advocacy