GUN OWNERS CAUCUS

Senate Judiciary & Public Safety Committee
March 11, 2026

On behalf of the Minnesota Gun Owners Caucus—the trusted voice of Minnesota's law-abiding gun owners working to defend and restore the right to keep and bear arms—we respectfully urge you to **vote NO on SF 3661**.

SF 3661 would criminalize the possession, manufacture, and transfer of privately manufactured firearms—commonly referred to as "ghost guns"—and would require many current owners to **serialize, surrender, or destroy** lawfully owned property.

The bill expands criminal liability for law-abiding citizens while doing little to address violent crime.

**Criminalizing Common Lawful Activity**

SF 3661 would make it a felony to possess an unserialized firearm, even if it was **lawfully manufactured and possessed under current law**. Owners would be forced to either serialize the firearm through a federally licensed dealer, surrender it to law enforcement, or render it permanently inoperable.

**Since the founding of the United States, Americans have lawfully manufactured firearms for personal use.** This long-standing tradition has never required federal licensure when the firearm is not intended for sale. By effectively prohibiting private firearm manufacturing unless performed by a federally licensed manufacturer, SF 3661 criminalizes conduct that has historically been lawful.

**First Amendment Concerns**

SF 3661 also raises serious **First Amendment concerns** by criminalizing the possession of digital files used to design or manufacture firearms using 3D printing or CNC technology.

Computer code and digital design files are widely recognized as **forms of protected speech** under the First Amendment. Courts have repeatedly held that the creation and distribution of code constitute expressive conduct.

Criminalizing the possession of digital design files risks placing Minnesota in direct conflict with established First Amendment protections and invites significant constitutional litigation.

**Expanding Criminal Penalties Without Addressing Crime**

Violent criminals will not comply with serialization requirements or firearm manufacturing regulations. Expanding felony penalties for technical firearm features does little to deter individuals already willing to ignore the law.

Minnesota already has extensive criminal laws addressing violent offenses, illegal firearm possession by prohibited persons, and misuse of firearms. Public safety is best served by focusing enforcement efforts on **violent offenders**, not expanding criminal liability for law-abiding citizens engaged in historically lawful conduct.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge you to **vote NO on SF 3661**.

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Chair

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