Written Testimony for Minnesota House Public Safety Committee

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HF XXXX - Becker-Finn – The so-called "Safe Storage" Act, which keeps a firearm from being accessible if needed to protect oneself AND allows citizens to be criminally charged for not complying

HF 601 - Her– Victims of a gun theft can be criminally charged if not reported within 48 hours

Committee Administrator Ellen McDaniel, ellen.mcdaniel@house.mn.gov, I respectfully submit the following:

- Regardless of motive or reasoning, gun control in any form is wicked.
- Simply put, this gun control bill violates liberty and law in pursuit of security.
 - Ben Franklin as part of the Pennsylvania Assembly in 1755, wrote to the Governor of Pennsylvania, "Those who would give up essential Liberty, to purchase a little temporary Safety, deserve neither Liberty nor Safety."
- Liberty is without question the most treasured right and value of human existence, and it is formally enshrined, codified and protected in American and Minnesota law.
 - As such, it is deemed inviolate.
- Is tyranny—be it overt or covert—to be accepted and even promoted in American and Minnesota law?
 - We collectively find the idea repugnant.
- Regardless of motive or reasoning, contravening in matters of liberty and by extension personal responsibility in a free republic is wicked and a most serious attack on good citizens.
 - As the entirety of human history has proven time and again, when the people are oppressed enough, they will defend themselves, even through a justified and virtuous rebellion.
 - Pray God we Minnesotans can avert that calamity!
- Slaves are not allowed to be freely armed, and we Minnesotans are by no means slaves!
- Thomas Jefferson wrote James Madison in 1787 *Malo periculosam, libertatem quam quietam servitutem* "I prefer the tumult of liberty to the quiet of servitude". He also said in the same letter that "governments of force" are a "government of wolves over sheep."

As such, these manifestations of the malignant cancer of authoritarianism should be officially halted with the utmost urgency!