

March 26, 2021

Dear Chairperson and Members of the Federal and State Affairs Committee:

My name is LaTonya Boyd. I am from Topeka Kansas. My life was forever changed by the domestic homicide of my daughter Tyeshia McNair who was 21 years old and a mother of 2 daughters ages 5 months old and 2 1/2 years old. She was shot to death by her abuser while trying to leave a domestic violence relationship. I volunteer with Moms Demand Action to ensure no other parent or family has to go through what my family and I have been through.

HB 2251 will save the lives of women and families by requiring domestic abusers to turn in their guns to law enforcement once they have been convicted of a domestic violence misdemeanor or when they have become subject to a domestic violence restraining order. I urge you to pass this bill. In Kansas, 157 people were killed in domestic violence homicides between 2015 and 2019 and firearms were used in 59 percent of these homicides. Right now women and families in Kansas remain in danger. I never want a parent to go through the kind of pain I go through every day...it's a pain I never want to wish on anyone. Please keep women and families safe from abuser's by making sure they relinquish the gun's they may already have to law enforcement. Please strengthen public safety by passing HB2251 to help keep women and families safe from abuser's.