

March 7, 2024

Testimony to the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs

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BILL NUMBER: HB 2803 Gun Rights Preservation Act

PROPONENT, OPPONENT, or NEUTRAL: Opponent

WRITTEN ONLY TESTIMONY:

Dear Chair & members of the committee,

I am writing to voice my opposition to bill HB 2803.

First, this bill is unconstitutional. The United States Constitution (the document Second Amendment crusaders cite religiously) includes what is known as the “Supremacy Clause,” which states that federal law is “the supreme Law of the Land” and will displace or “preempt” any conflicting state law. This bill instructs Kansas law enforcement to disregard federal law. It is nonsensical and unconstitutional. Pitting residents against federal law and its agents feeds a false sense of entitlement in residents that leads to tragedy in our communities. Not to mention these bills are on their face unconstitutional, unenforceable, and instantly result in litigation—a wasteful use of taxpayers’ dollars and legislators’ time. The majority of Kansas support common ground gun reform and rely on both state and federal law enforcement agents to protect them from nonsensical gun violence. This bill stands in the way of law enforcement doing their job to serve and protect. The Kansas legislature is actively disregarding the needs and voices of their constituents.

Following continued dissolution of its gun regulations Kansas has seen a 32% increase in gun related deaths. School shootings in the past five years have exceeded those in the last 40 years combined. The numbers speak for themselves. Passing this bill would add fuel to this fire. Passing this bill further indicates the lack of concern with the safety and well-being of the residents and constituents of the state of Kansas.

Please vote no on bill HB 2803 and dedicate yourselves to protecting the residents of Kansas.

Suni Michaelsen
Lenexa, KS