

Lizzie Kubitza

From: Rep. Matt Claman
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 9:42 AM
To: Lizzie Kubitza
Subject: FW: Rep.Garan.Tarr@akleg.gov; Sen.Dennis.Egan@akleg.gov

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

From: Rob Cadmus [mailto:robcadmus@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 8:35 AM
To: Rep. Matt Claman <Rep.Matt.Claman@akleg.gov>; Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>
Subject: Rep.Garan.Tarr@akleg.gov; Sen.Dennis.Egan@akleg.gov

Dear Representative Matt Claman and Sam Kito,

I am writing to you to express my support for HB 75.

As you are surely aware, Alaska leads the nation in gun deaths per capita, and it is past time for the legislature to take action to reduce the unacceptably high number of preventable deaths in the state that are tied to guns. Some of those gun deaths are suicides, some are linked to domestic violence, some are murders, others are accidental gun deaths. At least some of those deaths could be prevented if the legislature passes HB 75, giving courts the ability to issue orders, under stringent standards, to keep guns out of the hands of those who present a risk to themselves or to others because of those guns.

It's a common sense measure to protect Alaskans and the stringent standards under which the orders could be issued serve to protect the constitutional rights of those who are ordered to surrender their guns.

Please support HB 75--it is one small step in the direction of getting our violence statistics under control and saving lives.

Thank you,

Rob Cadmus
809 B Street
Juneau, AK 99801

Lizzie Kubitz

From: Rep. Matt Claman
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 9:43 AM
To: Lizzie Kubitz
Subject: FW: Written Testimony for HB 75 Hearing

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

From: Madeline Scholl [mailto:madelineamber3@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 9:36 AM
To: Rep. Matt Claman <Rep.Matt.Claman@akleg.gov>
Cc: Diana Rhoades <Diana.Rhoades@akleg.gov>
Subject: Written Testimony for HB 75 Hearing

Madeline Scholl
Anchorage, AK 99501
House District 20

BY EMAIL

February 28, 2018

The Honorable Representative Matt Claman
Chairman, House Judiciary Committee
Alaska Legislature
State Capitol Room 118
Juneau AK, 99801
Representative.Matt.Claman@akleg.gov

Dear Representative Claman and members of the Committee:

I am writing and testifying today as a concerned Alaskan, local Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America and Everytown for Gun Safety volunteer, and Sandy Hook Promise supporter, to express my support for HB 75 – an act relating to Gun Violence Protection Orders – that could save Alaskan lives.

As Alaskans, we are all too aware of the epidemic of gun deaths by suicide in our beloved State and how it disproportionately affects rural Alaskans and members of our military. This bill would reduce the number of deaths by suicide in Alaska by providing a method for limiting a suicidal person's access to firearms. Nine out of ten suicide attempts with a gun result in death, whereas most attempts by other means do not result in death, and those that survive those attempts most often do not make a second attempt.

I wish this bill had been a State law in May of 2008, when a dear friend of mine, Nick, took his own life with a gun during a moment of personal crisis. He was 21 years old, studying music education at UAF – where we met – and was loved by many friends and family who filled the Great Hall at UAF for his memorial. This year marks the 10th anniversary of his death, and the heartache of losing him is felt just as deeply as it was ten years ago.

If HB 75 had been law, Nick's immediate family, or a law enforcement officer, could have petitioned a court for a Red Flag order, which this bill calls a "Gun Violence Protection Order". The court could have reviewed the evidence and testimony of both parties. Under this bill, to temporarily take away a person's gun, a judge would have to find by clear and convincing evidence that a person is dangerous, or if the matter is an emergency, by a preponderance of the evidence. In Nick's case, a judge could have deemed him in immediate danger of harming himself or others, and could have required Nick to temporarily forfeit any firearms currently in his possession and could have barred him from acquiring any new firearms. **Nick's life could have been saved.** While there is no guarantee that this law would have saved his life, isn't the POSSIBILITY that it could have saved his life enough to justify it?

If this bill becomes law and prevents the death by suicide of even ONE person – ISN'T THAT ENOUGH TO JUSTIFY IT'S ENACTMENT?

Myself and many other Alaskans believe so.

Coinciding with our epidemic level of suicide deaths by firearm is the horrific frequency of mass shootings in our country. A nationwide study by Everytown for Gun Safety of mass shootings from 2009 to 2016 (available at: <http://every.tw/2BvFkXr>) revealed that in least 42 percent of those incidents, there is documentation that the attacker exhibited dangerous warning signs before the mass-murder by firearm.

Once again, hitting close to home, the alleged shooter at the Fort Lauderdale airport on January 6, 2017, was hospitalized briefly here in Anchorage in November 2016 for psychiatric care. He also had gone to the FBI office in town asking for help, telling the agents he was hearing voices and thought the government was controlling his mind and telling him to join the Islamic State. A police officer took his gun from him that day. But the police had to give the gun back to him one month later. The police had no clear legal authority to keep the gun once he asked for it back. One month later, he flew to Fort Lauderdale where he allegedly used a gun to kill 5 people and injure 6 more.

THIS IS NOT OK. THEIR DEATHS COULD HAVE BEEN PREVENTED.

Again, the five lives senselessly lost to the murder (allegedly) carried out by someone exhibiting blatant warning signs COULD have been saved if Alaska had a law like HB 75 in place at that time.

I urge you and the Committee to support this sensible bill and help save lives.

Thank you for holding this hearing today,

Respectfully,

Madeline Scholl
Anchorage Resident (99501)
Alaskan for 28 years

Lizzie Kubit

From: Rep. Matt Claman
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 9:58 AM
To: Lizzie Kubit
Subject: FW: Support for HB 75

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

From: Angela Plucker [mailto:apluck75@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 9:53 AM
To: Rep. Matt Claman <Rep.Matt.Claman@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support for HB 75

Representative, rep.matt.claman@akleg.gov

From: Angela Plucker, MSC, Anchorage resident (99517)

February 28, 2018

Dear Representative Claman:

I am a mental health clinician and am writing today to express my support for your proposed bill, HB 75 – Gun Violence Protective Orders. Although I strongly believe more accessible mental health care can prevent many people from getting to the point of hurting themselves or others it seems our government and society are not willing to provide resources for this type of prevention. A good analogy is a person with high blood pressure/heart disease who, either did not want to make lifestyle changes or did not have access or affordable healthcare, ends up in an emergency room with a heart attack/stroke. Doctors and nurses still do what they can to save the person's life and minimize damage. I believe HB 75 is like the emergency room visit. HB 75 and others will save lives.

As Alaskans, we are all too aware of the epidemic of gun deaths by suicide in our beloved state, and across the nation. This bill would reduce the number of deaths by suicide by reducing a suicidal person's access to firearms. Nine out of ten suicide attempts with a gun result in death, whereas most attempts by other means do not result in death.

If this bill becomes law and prevents the death by suicide of even ONE person – ISN'T THAT ENOUGH TO JUSTIFY IT'S EXISTENCE?

Myself and many other Alaskans believe so.

Coinciding with our epidemic level of suicide deaths by firearm is the horrific frequency of mass shootings in our country. A nationwide study by Everytown for Gun Safety of mass shootings from 2009 to 2016 (available at: <http://every.tw/2BvFkXr>) revealed that in at least 42 percent of those

incidents, there is documentation that the attacker exhibited dangerous warning signs before the mass-murder by firearm.

Once again, hitting close to home, Esteban Santiago – the alleged mass-murderer of the Fort Lauderdale airport shooting on January 6, 2017, was hospitalized briefly here in Anchorage in November 2016 for psychiatric care. He also had gone to the FBI office in town asking for help, telling the agents he was hearing voices and thought the government was controlling his mind (obvious symptoms of severe mental health and may be at higher risk of danger to himself or others). He HIMSELF relinquished the very firearm he used to kill 5 people and injure 6 more to authorities around this time, but those authorities had no method by which to withhold the firearm any longer once he decided to regain possession.

THIS IS NOT OK.

Again, the five lives senselessly lost to the murder carried out by someone exhibiting BLANTANT warning signs COULD have been saved if Alaska had a law like HB 75 in place at the time.

Rep. Claman, I thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for championing this effort to SAVE ALASKAN LIVES. Myself and hundreds of other supporters are behind you 110%, and are praying that this Legislature wakes up and realizes that this bill has the potential to avert more senseless deaths by firearm.

Your ally for gun sense and safety,

Angela Plucker

Anchorage Resident (99517)

Alaskan for 13 years

Lizzie Kubitz

From: Rep. Matt Claman
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 2:40 PM
To: Lizzie Kubitz
Subject: FW: Support for HB75

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

From: Penny Gage [mailto:gagepenny@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 2:34 PM
To: Rep. Matt Claman <Rep.Matt.Claman@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support for HB75

Hello,
I wish to voice my support for HB75 on gun violence protective orders.

Thank you,
Penny Gage
Anchorage, AK 99517

Andrea Beausang
8600 Pluto Drive
Anchorage, AK 99507

BY EMAIL

March 1, 2018

The Honorable Representative Matt Claman
Chairman, House Judiciary Committee
Alaska Legislature
State Capitol Room 118
Juneau AK, 99801
Representative.Matt.Claman@akleg.gov

Dear Representative Claman:

I understand the Alaska House Judiciary Committee heard HB 75 on Wednesday, February 28, 2018. Having reviewed this bill, I urge you and your committee members to support it.

My husband and I have lived in Alaska for 7 years and have 2 two small children in the Anchorage school system. We love living in Alaska, especially for the quality of life it affords our family. We moved here from Philadelphia, a great city (and the Superbowl champions!) but gun violence is frequent in the city and we didn't want our kids growing up hearing gun shots at night. The topics of gun control, safety in our schools, and eliminating assault weapons are common when we get together with friends and meet up with parents at school drop-off/pickup. None of us want assault weapons around our children and no one wants to go through what the parents of Parkland and Sandy Hook had to. I agree with those who say that ending this national tragedy requires action on many fronts—clearly among the needed actions are new laws that will help keep guns away from dangerous people.

HB 75 draws the appropriate balance between protecting the rights of Alaskans to keep and bear arms, and protecting the rights of Alaskans to go about our daily lives without fear that we or our children may be the next victims of gun violence. Under this bill, to temporarily take away a person's gun a judge would have to find by clear and convincing evidence that a person is dangerous, or if the matter is an emergency by a preponderance of the evidence. When there is strong evidence that a person is a danger to themselves or others, we urgently need the government's help to temporarily keep guns away from such a person and to keep our families safe. This bill provides a commonsense response to the gun violence epidemic sweeping the nation and our state.

Please support this commonsense bill.

Respectfully,
Andrea Beausang

cc: Diana.Rhoades@akleg.gov

Lizzie Kubitz

From: Rep. Matt Claman
Sent: Thursday, March 01, 2018 4:44 PM
To: Lizzie Kubitz
Subject: FW: 2nd Ammendment

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

From: matt spence [mailto:spence907@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 1, 2018 10:07 AM
To: Rep. Matt Claman <Rep.Matt.Claman@akleg.gov>
Subject: 2nd Ammendment

Dear Mr. Claman,

I urge you to pass HB 75 and any other legislation which may prevent the gun violence that has become so prevalent. Gun control measures seldom progress on a federal level. Therefore I would like to offer you my perspective on the current debate so that perhaps something can be done at the state level.

My daughter is 4 months old today and we live two blocks off the Turnagain/Spenard intersection. A few months ago I clearly heard the shot that ended someone's life in the McDonald's parking lot. Despite the dangers of the neighborhood and my strong instinct to protect this new life, I feel no need for assault-style weapons or large capacity magazines. The same goes for protection against bears when we go camping on our land in Trapper Creek. These military style weapons only present a danger to public safety.

I teach English and German at East High School. Allowing teachers to be armed is just plain stupid. Most school shooters are suicidal and their attitudes towards authority would likely make suicide-by-teacher the preferred method of death over the traditional suicide or suicide-by-cop.

Thank you for your time in reading this and feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss the issue further

Sincerely,
Matthew Spence

Lizzie Kubitza

From: Rep. Matt Claman
Sent: Thursday, March 01, 2018 4:45 PM
To: Lizzie Kubitza
Subject: FW: HB75

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

From: Sally Donaldson [mailto:sallyanndonaldson@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 1, 2018 11:55 AM
To: Rep. Matt Claman <Rep.Matt.Claman@akleg.gov>; Rep. David Eastman <Rep.David.Eastman@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Lora Reinbold <Rep.Lora.Reinbold@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>; Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins <Rep.Jonathan.Kreiss-Tomkins@akleg.gov>
Cc: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Ivy Spohnholz <Rep.Ivy.Spohnholz@akleg.gov>; Rep. Charisse Millett <Rep.Charisse.Millett@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB75

Representative Claman and Judiciary Committee Members,

Thank you for hearing HB75 yesterday in the House Judiciary Committee. I appreciate the committee's careful thought. I was encouraged with the reception, and support both in the room, and via teleconference from around the state. Thank goodness for our technology which makes it possible to hear those folks who are far away. I thought Representative Geran Tarr gave a clear introduction and background to the bill. Invited testimony particularly by Dr. Amy Barnhorst was informative and provided perspective for those who insist that mental health, not guns, is the problem to be solved.

I am retired, worked in K-12 schools 35 years, and served the last 22 as school counselor in the Juneau School district. It was during my time in Alaska that then 16 year old Evan Ramsey killed 2 people at Bethel High School, and schools nationwide began to institute lock-down drills in case of an intruder.

I have hope that Alaska can improve our horrific record in death by firearm. HB75 is a vehicle to make such an improvement.

Thank you for your work, for your wisdom, and leadership.

Sincerely,
Sally Donaldson
530 Park Street
Juneau, AK 99801

Lizzie Kubitz

From: Rep. Matt Claman
Sent: Monday, March 05, 2018 9:30 AM
To: House Judiciary
Subject: FW: Support for HB 75

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

From: Judy Andree [mailto:jagster42@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 04, 2018 5:53 PM
To: Rep. Geran Tarr <Rep.Geran.Tarr@akleg.gov>; Rep. Matt Claman <Rep.Matt.Claman@akleg.gov>; Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins <Rep.Jonathan.Kreiss-Tomkins@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>; Rep. David Eastman <Rep.David.Eastman@akleg.gov>; Representtive.Chuck.Kopp@akleg.gov; Rep. Lora Reinbold <Rep.Lora.Reinbold@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support for HB 75

Dear Members of the Legislature:

We are writing in support of HB 75: Gun Violence Protective Orders. This bill will save lives. It gives law enforcement and family members a way to remove a dangerous weapon temporarily from someone who may be suffering mental and/or emotional turmoil. Alaska is frequently reported to be the state with the highest rate of gun-related deaths; the Kaiser Family Foundation reports that rate at 23.3 for 2016 compared to a national rate of 11.8. Many of these Alaskan deaths are suicides, but HB 75 may help change this statistic. HB 75 may not prevent all gun-related violence, but it will prevent some and that "some" represents human lives. We urge you to pass HB 75 out of (H) JUD and on to (H) FIN. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Bob and Judy Andree
5985 Lund St.
Juneau, AK 99801

Lizzie Kubitza

From: Rep. Matt Claman
Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2018 10:59 AM
To: Lizzie Kubitza
Subject: FW: Angie in 99517 Supports HB 75

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

From: Angie Dexter [mailto:bounce@list.everytown.org]
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 10:45 AM
To: Rep. Matt Claman <Rep.Matt.Claman@akleg.gov>
Subject: Angie in 99517 Supports HB 75

Dear Representative Matt Claman,

States across the country are stepping up to take action and pass common-sense Red Flag Laws — Alaska should be next.

Alaska's Red Flag legislation creates a gun violence protective order (GVPO), a kind of court order that family members and law enforcement can request from a judge to temporarily restrict a person's access to guns because that person poses a significant danger to self or others.

This is a common-sense policy that can help prevent gun violence before it's too late — whether suicide, domestic violence, or tragedies like the recent mass shooting in Parkland, Florida.

When family members are empowered to act, they can prevent warning signs from turning into a mass shooting or gun suicide.

Please support HB 75 to make Alaskans safer from preventable gun violence.

Sincerely,

Angie, constituent in 99517

Lizzie Kubitz

From: Rep. Matt Claman
Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2018 11:02 AM
To: Lizzie Kubitz
Subject: FW: Brooke in 99517 Supports HB 75

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

From: Brooke Dudley [mailto:bounce@list.everytown.org]
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 4:49 PM
To: Rep. Matt Claman <Rep.Matt.Claman@akleg.gov>
Subject: Brooke in 99517 Supports HB 75

Dear Representative Matt Claman,

States across the country are stepping up to take action and pass common-sense Red Flag Laws — Alaska should be next.

Alaska's Red Flag legislation creates a gun violence protective order (GVPO), a kind of court order that family members and law enforcement can request from a judge to temporarily restrict a person's access to guns because that person poses a significant danger to self or others.

This is a common-sense policy that can help prevent gun violence before it's too late — whether suicide, domestic violence, or tragedies like the recent mass shooting in Parkland, Florida.

When family members are empowered to act, they can prevent warning signs from turning into a mass shooting or gun suicide.

Please support HB 75 to make Alaskans safer from preventable gun violence.

Sincerely,

Brooke, constituent in 99517

Lizzie Kubitza

From: Rep. Matt Claman
Sent: Monday, March 12, 2018 8:17 AM
To: House Judiciary
Subject: FW: HB

From: Anna Andrews [mailto:balto@acsalaska.net]
Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2018 11:55 AM
To: Rep. Matt Claman <Rep.Matt.Claman@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB

I am writing to urge you to support HB 75.

It is common sense first step to address the issue of gun violence.

Thank you.

Anna Andrews

Lizzie Kubitz

From: V Bell <colonelbell@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 12, 2018 9:21 AM
To: House Judiciary
Cc: victorb@ptialaska.net
Subject: House Bill 75, testimony regarding temporary removal of guns from persons.

Request the following be presented to the committee testimony regarding the bill allowing law enforcement to remove guns temporarily from persons deemed dangerous to self or others.

I am Victor C Bell, MD (Psychiatrist, retired, North Pole, AK)). I previously served as Medical Officer of the Inpatient Psychiatry Ward at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital. One example of a problem this bill may solve is memorable.

A patient was brought to Fairbanks Memorial Psychiatry Unit and placed on a 72 hour hold. They were taken into custody in a small town/village after walking into the town from the cabin brandishing a rifle and pistol and appearing dangerous. The patient had a psychotic type of illness. After the mandatory hold I attended court, requesting further commitment as the patient still appeared dangerous though somewhat improved.

The defense attorney argued that the patient no longer met the requirements for commitment and that carrying guns was common and necessary due to the possibility of bears and there was no evidence that the patient intended a specific harm. The patient was released without restrictions in spite of my concern for the unpredictability of their future actions.

The case illustrates the problem of obtaining necessary restriction of a civil liberty that can threaten the welfare of the community. The bar for commitment is set so high that commitment is very difficult to obtain. I was further told during this case that the State of Alaska has never reported a commitment to the Federal Government Department of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms which would cause some restriction in future purchases of guns and that there is no precedent for removing guns from the control of such a patient in Alaska.

I would encourage legislation creating such a law to prevent injuries caused by unstable mental states. The law must specifically address the reasoning for such restrictions in such a way that the bar for enforcement is set low enough that it can be reasonably enforced and cannot be successfully argued away as in the above case. There needs to be a process through which the person subject to such restriction can prove that they are not and will not reasonably become dangerous in a reasonably foreseeable future in order to recover their weapons. An example of intoxication needs to be considered, as this is much more frequent than psychosis, and a defense attorney will argue that they "were only drunk" but will not consider that they become drunk repeatedly.

/s/Victor C Bell
I may be contacted at 907-490-3001

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Lizzie Kubitz

From: Rep. Matt Claman
Sent: Monday, March 12, 2018 10:40 AM
To: House Judiciary
Subject: FW: HB 75

From: Judy Bockmon [mailto:jbbockmon@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 12, 2018 10:05 AM
To: Rep. Matt Claman <Rep.Matt.Clarman@akleg.gov>; Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins <Rep.Jonathan.Kreiss-Tomkins@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>; Rep. David Eastman <Rep.David.Eastman@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chuck Kopp <Rep.Chuck.Kopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Lora Reinbold <Rep.Lora.Reinbold@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB 75

I urge you to support passage of HB 75 which provides for a system of protective orders allowing a temporary removal of firearms from a persons who are a danger to themselves or others. This bill represents one common sense step to reducing the level of potential gun violence and the loss of innocent lives in Alaska.

Julia Bockmon
Anchorage

Lizzie Kubitz

From: Rep. Matt Claman
Sent: Monday, March 12, 2018 10:40 AM
To: House Judiciary
Subject: FW: In Support of HB75

From: Jorden Nigro [mailto:jordennigro@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 12, 2018 10:18 AM
To: Rep. Matt Claman <Rep.Matt.Claman@akleg.gov>; Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins <Rep.Jonathan.Kreiss-Tomkins@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux <Rep.Gabrielle.LeDoux@akleg.gov>; Rep. David Eastman <Rep.David.Eastman@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chuck Kopp <Rep.Chuck.Kopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Lora Reinbold <Rep.Lora.Reinbold@akleg.gov>
Cc: Rep. Geran Tarr <Rep.Geran.Tarr@akleg.gov>; Rep. Justin Parish <Rep.Justin.Parish@akleg.gov>; Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>
Subject: In Support of HB75

Dear Representative Claman and Judicial Committee Members,

I am writing as a life long Alaskan who grew up in a rural community with guns in our home for hunting and outdoor protection. I am not anti-gun. I am however, pro-gun control and our state is far behind on implementing reasonable gun control. HB75 is an important step in helping the residents of our state be safer and I hope you will pass this bill out of your committee quickly and continue to support it through the legislative process.

Being able to restrict someone who is a risk to themselves or others, from having access to their gun(s) is a reasonable and prudent approach. We know many Alaskan houses have guns in them. We also know that our state has some of the highest rates of domestic violence and suicide in the country. If we choose to ignore these facts in favor of the NRA's deeply held belief that guns should not be subject to any sort of control, make no mistake, we are putting the wishes of the NRA over the safety of our citizens. Right now, we have an opportunity to make a positive change, you have the power to make a positive change.

Please, put Alaskans before guns. Put our safety before guns. The decision you make here matters. Ask yourself, if someone you loved was struggling with depression, would you want them to have easy access to a gun? This impacts all of us. There is a right and a wrong answer here. Get it right. We need you to get it right.

Sincerely,

Jorden Nigro
Juneau