

Mina Ryan

From: Alexandria Weddell <AlexandriaWeddell@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 10, 2023 12:06 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs; Rep. CJ McCormick; Rep. Kevin McCabe; Rep. Thomas McKay; Rep. Josiah Patkotak; Rep. Justin Ruffridge; Rep. Rebecca Himschoot; Rep. Donna Mears
Subject: COMMENT opposing HB61

Hello,

My name is Alexandria Weddell and I am a resident of Skagway Alaska. I am also a gun owner. I am writing to ask you to please oppose HB61. The bill truthfully does not make much sense. I do not see how this makes anyone safer during an emergency and moreover, during times of emergencies our communities do NOT need laws and rules limiting what our bodies of government can do. I am asking as a constituent please not to support this frivolous bill.

Thank you,

Alexandria Weddell
907-612-0033
PO Box 945
Skagway AK 99840

Mina Ryan

From: Irene Bortnick <ibortnick@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 10, 2023 12:11 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Cc: Rep. CJ McCormick; Rep. Kevin McCabe; Rep. Thomas McKay; Rep. Josiah Patkotak; Rep. Justin Ruffridge; Rep. Rebecca Himschoot; Rep. Donna Mears
Subject: opposition to HB61

This letter is to voice my opposition to HB 61 which rather than promoting safety during an emergency, could potentially make for a very unsafe situation.

While I myself do not own any firearms, we do have some which are used for target practice and are broken down, locked and kept in a safe.

Preventing our governing bodies including the governor and local leaders, as well as law enforcement officers from taking action to limit possession or use of firearms during a declared emergency, will not in any way promote public safety.

It would behoove you instead, to support any bills that promote safe, secure storage of firearms that come before you. Firearms are the #1 cause of death for children and teens (ages 0-19) in Alaska; an average of 20 Alaskan children and teens (ages 0-19) die by guns every year; and 1 in 10 Alaska adults live in a home with an unlocked and loaded firearm. Earlier this year, the Anchorage School District adopted a resolution to require education on the safe and secure storage of firearms. Such a resolution in no way infringes on anyone's 2nd Amendment rights, but will go a long way to promoting safety. The Alaska State legislature would do well to promote similar legislation so that children across the state can live in safer environments. If you are not already familiar with it, please check out the Be Smart for kids program. And please, do not advance HB61.

Thank you,

Mina Ryan

From: Ann Gifford <agifford83@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 12, 2023 1:07 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs; Rep. CJ McCormick; Rep. Kevin McCabe; Rep. Thomas McKay; Rep. Josiah Patkotak; Rep. Justin Ruffridge; Rep. Rebecca Himschoot; Rep. Donna Mears
Subject: opposition to HB 61

Dear Chair McCormick and members of the House Community & Regional Affairs Committee,

I am a retired attorney and long-time resident of Juneau AK. I'm opposed to HB 61 because it would tie the hands of our governor and local officials when they most need flexibility to respond to catastrophes. When there is an earthquake, flood or fire governments often need to restrict access to specific areas or impose curfews to protect safety and prevent theft. First responders need to set up shelters, field hospitals and soup kitchens. Limiting the carrying or use of firearms in those times and places can be an important tool to protect public safety and maintain order. I think if we were to prohibit our leaders from using that tool we would come to regret it later.

Sometimes it's not safe for people to drive their cars or trucks during an emergency. Sometimes it's not safe for them to carry their guns. We need to make sure our leaders have the ability to respond quickly and impose reasonable rules during natural disasters and other emergencies to keep everyone safe.

I'm also concerned about giving favored status to commercial enterprises like gun shops and shooting ranges. I understand that this bill was prompted by complaints that these businesses were not considered "essential" and were subject to temporary closure at the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. The types of services that are considered essential can vary depending on the nature of an emergency and even on the nature of a particular pandemic. I can't fault our leaders for closing most shops and services to try to contain the spread of Covid 19, especially in the early days when we didn't know exactly how it was transmitted. Car and boat dealers didn't make the list of essential businesses, nor did health clubs. Why should a gun shop get favored status over a car or boat dealer? Why should a shooting range get preference over a health club? Please don't make decisions driven by economic protectionism.

Finally, I object to giving "a membership organization...dedicated...to the protection of the rights of persons who possess or use firearms..." special status as a "person" entitled to sue under this proposed law and to collect treble punitive damages if they're successful. This is a particularly offensive form of economic protectionism for the NRA and similar gun rights organizations. It would encourage needless litigation and the wasteful use of state funds to defend litigation where no actual person has been harmed and is motivated to sue.

HB 61 would do nothing to promote the public interest. Please do not approve this bill.

Thank you for your service to our State. Sincerely, Ann Gifford

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Ann Gifford
Juneau, Alaska
(907) 723-7128

Mina Ryan

From: Janice Caulfield <janc@gci.net>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 9:23 AM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs; Rep. CJ McCormick; Rep. Kevin McCabe; Rep. Thomas McKay; Rep. Josiah Patkotak; Rep. Justin Ruffridge; Rep. Rebecca Himschoot; Rep. Donna Mears
Subject: OPPOSE House Bill 61, Limitations on Firearms Restrictions

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee members,

I am 44 year resident of Juneau AK, my family owns a gun used for hunting, and I oppose HB 61. When there is a disaster, the State of Alaska and local municipalities need to have access to a wide range of tools to protect public and community safety. It is irresponsible to limit the actions that the governor, a state agency, or a municipality can take to protect us during a declared disaster, especially when each disaster situation is unique and it is impossible to predict what steps will be necessary to protect public safety and maintain order.

We give leaders special powers in disaster situations because they must be able to move quickly and take decisive actions to protect public health and safety. For example, it could be important to limit possession or use of firearms to ensure safety in public shelters managed by the military, a government agency or the Red Cross. This bill seems to prevent law enforcement from taking these common sense steps to provide for public safety and ensure the peace.

Providing the right for individuals and "membership organizations" to sue a state or local government or official under this law and collect triple punitive damages is particularly objectionable. Government officials will be dissuaded from taking actions that would protect people and communities in a timely manner, if they are concerned about subsequent specious and expensive lawsuits.

Why is the legislature spending time considering this bill — but ignoring the facts that: (1) firearms are the leading cause of death of children and teens in Alaska (59% of these child/teen deaths are gun suicides), and (2) our state has the second highest rate of gun deaths in the nation (68% are suicides)? I urge you instead to spend time considering adopting sensible tools, such as a secure storage law, that would reduce gun suicides and save lives in Alaska.

HB 61 would do nothing to keep Alaskans safer in a disaster. Please do not pass this bill out of committee.

Thank you,

Jan Caulfield
Juneau, Alaska

Mina Ryan

From: Ms LaRae Jones <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 3:18 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Ms LaRae Jones in 99824

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

For example, it could be important for law enforcement to safeguard unsecured firearms in damaged areas to prevent them from being stolen, or to not allow personally-owned firearms to be brought into shelters managed by the military, a government agency or the Red Cross.

Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

MS LARAE JONES
DOUGLAS, AK 99824

Mina Ryan

From: Dr Marc Dumas <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 3:19 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Dr Marc Dumas in 99712

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

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Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

DR MARC DUMAS
FAIRBANKS, AK 99712

Mina Ryan

From: Ms. Maria Crawford <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 3:21 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Ms. Maria Crawford in 99501

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

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Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

MS. MARIA CRAWFORD
ANCHORAGE, AK 99501

Mina Ryan

From: Ms. April Woods <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 3:47 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Ms. April Woods in 99504

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

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Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

MS. APRIL WOODS
ANCHORAGE, AK 99504

Mina Ryan

From: Ms. gloria oswald <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 3:49 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Ms. gloria oswald in 99517

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

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Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

MS. GLORIA OSWALD
ANCHORAGE, AK 99517

Mina Ryan

From: Mrs Siv Liljegren-Waters <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 3:52 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Mrs Siv Liljegren-Waters in 99502

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

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Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

MRS SIV LILJEGREN-WATERS
ANCHORAGE, AK 99502

Mina Ryan

From: Amanda Grenn <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 4:00 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Amanda Grenn in 99502

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

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Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

AMANDA GRENN
ANCHORAGE, AK 99502

Mina Ryan

From: douglas edgar <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 4:00 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from douglas edgar in 99801

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

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Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

DOUGLAS EDGAR
JUNEAU, AK 99801

Mina Ryan

From: Ms. Erika Gaskins <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 4:07 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Ms. Erika Gaskins in 99709

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

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Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

MS. ERIKA GASKINS
FAIRBANKS, AK 99709

Mina Ryan

From: Carey Hubert <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 4:34 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Carey Hubert in 99901

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

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Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

CAREY HUBERT
KETCHIKAN, AK 99901

Mina Ryan

From: Mrs Julianne Tomich <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 4:37 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Mrs Julianne Tomich in 99603

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

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Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

MRS JULIANNE TOMICH
HOMER, AK 99603

Mina Ryan

From: Mrs Susan Vogt <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 4:59 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Mrs Susan Vogt in 99712

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

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Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

MRS SUSAN VOGT
FAIRBANKS, AK 99712

Mina Ryan

From: carey hubert <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 5:03 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from carey hubert in 99901

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

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Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

CAREY HUBERT
KETCHIKAN, AK 99901

Mina Ryan

From: Mr Brandon Brooks <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 5:34 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Mr Brandon Brooks in 99577

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

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Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

MR BRANDON BROOKS
EAGLE RIVER, AK 99577

Mina Ryan

From: Scott Kawasaki <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 5:52 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Scott Kawasaki in 99701

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

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Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

SCOTT KAWASAKI
FAIRBANKS, AK 99701

Mina Ryan

From: Mr Normand Dupre <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 6:03 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Mr Normand Dupre in 99901

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

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Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

MR NORMAND DUPRE
KETCHIKAN, AK, AK 99901

Mina Ryan

From: Mr. John S. Sonin <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 6:31 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Mr. John S. Sonin in 99824

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

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Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

MR. JOHN S. SONIN
DOUGLAS, AK 99824

Mina Ryan

From: Mr. Charles Bingham <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 6:49 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Mr. Charles Bingham in 99835

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

For example, it could be important for law enforcement to safeguard unsecured firearms in damaged areas to prevent them from being stolen, or to not allow personally-owned firearms to be brought into shelters managed by the military, a government agency or the Red Cross.

Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

MR. CHARLES BINGHAM
SITKA, AK 99835

Mina Ryan

From: Leslie Law <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 7:04 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Leslie Law in 99801

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

For example, it could be important for law enforcement to safeguard unsecured firearms in damaged areas to prevent them from being stolen, or to not allow personally-owned firearms to be brought into shelters managed by the military, a government agency or the Red Cross.

Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

LESLIE LAW
JUNEAU, AK 99801

Mina Ryan

From: Ms Luann McVey <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 7:39 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Ms Luann McVey in 99824

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

For example, it could be important for law enforcement to safeguard unsecured firearms in damaged areas to prevent them from being stolen, or to not allow personally-owned firearms to be brought into shelters managed by the military, a government agency or the Red Cross.

Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

MS LUANN MCVEY
DOUGLAS, AK 99824

Mina Ryan

From: Ms. Marta McCracken <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 8:56 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Ms. Marta McCracken in 99508

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

For example, it could be important for law enforcement to safeguard unsecured firearms in damaged areas to prevent them from being stolen, or to not allow personally-owned firearms to be brought into shelters managed by the military, a government agency or the Red Cross.

Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

MS. MARTA MCCRACKEN
ANCHORAGE, AK 99508

Mina Ryan

From: Michael Cook <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 8:57 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Michael Cook in 99706

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

For example, it could be important for law enforcement to safeguard unsecured firearms in damaged areas to prevent them from being stolen, or to not allow personally-owned firearms to be brought into shelters managed by the military, a government agency or the Red Cross.

Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL COOK
FAIRBANKS, AK 99706

Mina Ryan

From: Ms Sue Libenson <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 9:14 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Ms Sue Libenson in 99827

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

For example, it could be important for law enforcement to safeguard unsecured firearms in damaged areas to prevent them from being stolen, or to not allow personally-owned firearms to be brought into shelters managed by the military, a government agency or the Red Cross.

Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

MS SUE LIBENSON
HAINES, AK 99827

Mina Ryan

From: Mr. Dogan Ozkan <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 9:34 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Mr. Dogan Ozkan in 99701

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

For example, it could be important for law enforcement to safeguard unsecured firearms in damaged areas to prevent them from being stolen, or to not allow personally-owned firearms to be brought into shelters managed by the military, a government agency or the Red Cross.

Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

MR. DOGAN OZKAN
FAIRBANKS, AK 99701

Mina Ryan

From: Mr Lawrence A Johnson <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:11 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Mr Lawrence A Johnson in 99709

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

For example, it could be important for law enforcement to safeguard unsecured firearms in damaged areas to prevent them from being stolen, or to not allow personally-owned firearms to be brought into shelters managed by the military, a government agency or the Red Cross.

Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

MR LAWRENCE A JOHNSON
FAIRBANKS, AK 99709

Mina Ryan

From: Mr. Gary Moore <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:20 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Mr. Gary Moore in 99577

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

For example, it could be important for law enforcement to safeguard unsecured firearms in damaged areas to prevent them from being stolen, or to not allow personally-owned firearms to be brought into shelters managed by the military, a government agency or the Red Cross.

Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

MR. GARY MOORE
EAGLE RIVER, AK 99577

Mina Ryan

From: Kelcie Hansen <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:23 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Kelcie Hansen in 99507

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

For example, it could be important for law enforcement to safeguard unsecured firearms in damaged areas to prevent them from being stolen, or to not allow personally-owned firearms to be brought into shelters managed by the military, a government agency or the Red Cross.

Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

KELCIE HANSEN
ANCHORAGE, AK 99507

Mina Ryan

From: Amy <amy.kesten@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 6:47 AM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Opposition to HB61

To the Hose Committee and Regional Affairs:

Thank you for your work.

I write to you, to strongly urge you to oppose HB61.

In disaster and emergency situations, leaders and law enforcement must be able to respond to unpredictable conditions and take quick and decisive actions.

This may include reducing the sale of firearms.

This bill being proposed, would prevent law enforcement, from taking steps, in emergency situations.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter which opposes HB61.

Sincerely,
Amy Kesten
Special Education Teacher, retired
Auke Bay

Sent from my iPhone

Mina Ryan

From: Jasmine Maurer <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 7:00 AM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Jasmine Maurer in 99603

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

For example, it could be important for law enforcement to safeguard unsecured firearms in damaged areas to prevent them from being stolen, or to not allow personally-owned firearms to be brought into shelters managed by the military, a government agency or the Red Cross.

Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

JASMINE MAURER
HOMER, AK 99603

Mina Ryan

From: Mrs. Sarah Baldwin <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 7:08 AM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Mrs. Sarah Baldwin in 99515

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

For example, it could be important for law enforcement to safeguard unsecured firearms in damaged areas to prevent them from being stolen, or to not allow personally-owned firearms to be brought into shelters managed by the military, a government agency or the Red Cross.

Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

MRS. SARAH BALDWIN
ANCHORAGE, AK 99515

Mina Ryan

From: Mr Jeff Sloss <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 7:25 AM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Mr Jeff Sloss in 99801

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

For example, it could be important for law enforcement to safeguard unsecured firearms in damaged areas to prevent them from being stolen, or to not allow personally-owned firearms to be brought into shelters managed by the military, a government agency or the Red Cross.

Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

MR JEFF SLOSS
JUNEAU, AK 99801

Mina Ryan

From: Amy Paige <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 8:15 AM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Amy Paige in 99801

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

For example, it could be important for law enforcement to safeguard unsecured firearms in damaged areas to prevent them from being stolen, or to not allow personally-owned firearms to be brought into shelters managed by the military, a government agency or the Red Cross.

Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

AMY PAIGE
JUNEAU, AK 99801

Mina Ryan

From: Lin G Davis <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 9:39 AM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Lin G Davis in 99801

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

For example, it could be important for law enforcement to safeguard unsecured firearms in damaged areas to prevent them from being stolen, or to not allow personally-owned firearms to be brought into shelters managed by the military, a government agency or the Red Cross.

Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

LIN G DAVIS
JUNEAU, AK 99801

Mina Ryan

From: Terri Perini <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 9:43 AM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Terri Perini in 99645

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

For example, it could be important for law enforcement to safeguard unsecured firearms in damaged areas to prevent them from being stolen, or to not allow personally-owned firearms to be brought into shelters managed by the military, a government agency or the Red Cross.

Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

TERRI PERINI
PALMER, AK 99645

Mina Ryan

From: Mr. John Mahoney <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 11:52 AM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Mr. John Mahoney in 99687

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

For example, it could be important for law enforcement to safeguard unsecured firearms in damaged areas to prevent them from being stolen, or to not allow personally-owned firearms to be brought into shelters managed by the military, a government agency or the Red Cross.

Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

MR. JOHN MAHONEY
WASILLA, AK 99687

Mina Ryan

From: Johanna Bouker <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 12:14 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Johanna Bouker in 99576

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

For example, it could be important for law enforcement to safeguard unsecured firearms in damaged areas to prevent them from being stolen, or to not allow personally-owned firearms to be brought into shelters managed by the military, a government agency or the Red Cross.

Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

JOHANNA BOUKER
DILLINGHAM, AK 99576

Mina Ryan

From: oedgar@gci.net
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 12:19 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Testimony for 3/16/23 hearing on HB61

I plan to testify in person on Thursday morning at the 8 am hearing on HB61. The following is a copy of my comments.

Testimony in opposition to HB 61, an Act relating to restrictions on firearms and other weapons.

Committee Chair and members, House Community and Regional Affairs Committee,

Good morning,

My name is Odette Edgar. I am a 55-year Alaska resident and I have lived in Juneau since 1975.

I am testifying on my own behalf regarding HB61, an Act relating to restrictions on the use, sale or possession firearms, ammunition, and other weapons.

I see that three of the bill's sponsors and co-sponsors are members of the Community and Regional Affairs committee and are here today: Representatives McCabe, McKay and Ruffridge.

I respectfully acknowledge the sponsors, however, I am strongly opposed to HB61.

My concern is that the bill would severely limit the ability of state and local authorities to take actions to protect public safety during emergency situations.

For example, if the City and Borough of Juneau, the Red Cross or the Coast Guard set up emergency shelters, medical clinics, or soup kitchens, they could not stop people from bringing in firearms. How wise is that?

In another scenario, if a store selling guns was damaged and its security compromised, the police couldn't prevent the looting of dangerous weapons and ammunition. Does this make sense? This bill would tie the hands of emergency officials and does not keep the community safer during an earthquake, flood or wildfire.

I'm particularly disturbed by the provision that sets up individuals or interest groups as the enforcers of this law. The monetary award of three times the economic damage in addition to court and attorney fees is an invitation for people to barrage the Alaska court system for lucrative settlements.

Please vote against passing HB61 out of the C & RA Committee.

Thank you.

Odette Edgar

108 6th St

Juneau Alaska 99801

Mina Ryan

From: Ms. Maureen Knutsen <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 1:05 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Ms. Maureen Knutsen in 99633

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

For example, it could be important for law enforcement to safeguard unsecured firearms in damaged areas to prevent them from being stolen, or to not allow personally-owned firearms to be brought into shelters managed by the military, a government agency or the Red Cross.

Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

MS. MAUREEN KNUTSEN
NAKNEK, AK 99633

Mina Ryan

From: Brooke Quintana <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 1:07 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Brooke Quintana in 99516

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

For example, it could be important for law enforcement to safeguard unsecured firearms in damaged areas to prevent them from being stolen, or to not allow personally-owned firearms to be brought into shelters managed by the military, a government agency or the Red Cross.

Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

BROOKE QUINTANA
ANCHORAGE, AK 99516

Mina Ryan

From: Larri Spengler <lspengler@ak.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 5:19 PM
Cc: House Community and Regional Affairs; Rep. CJ McCormick; Rep. Kevin McCabe; Rep. Thomas McKay; Rep. Josiah Patkotak; Rep. Justin Ruffridge; Rep. Rebecca Himschoot; Rep. Donna Mears
Subject: no on HB 61 and SB 63

Greetings:

I urge you in the strongest terms to vote no on HB 61, which seems ill-conceived and dangerous.

I also oppose its companion, SB 63.

As I understand, it would "prohibit the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency to restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon. This needlessly and dangerously ties the hand of the state and city governments and law enforcement who are charged with protecting public safety during a disaster emergency."

I agree with other opponents that: "In disaster situations, leaders must be able to move quickly, respond to unpredictable conditions, and take decisive actions to protect public health and safety. For example, it could be important to limit possession or use of firearms in certain areas to prevent them from being stolen, or to ensure safety in public shelters managed by the military, a government agency or the Red Cross. This bill seems to prevent law enforcement from taking these and other common sense steps to provide for public safety."

Please reject this foolish and dangerous bill.

Larri Spengler

Larri Irene Spengler
4545 Thane Road
Juneau, Alaska 99801
907-586-9768 (phone/fax)
lspengler@ak.net

Mina Ryan

From: Lin G Davis <bounce@list.everytown.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 8:41 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs
Subject: Vote NO on HB 61: Message for gun safety from Lin G Davis in 99801

Dear House Community and Regional Affairs Committee ,

I'm urging you to vote NO on HB 61. This bill would disallow the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking any action during a declared disaster emergency that would restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon.

Our state is no stranger to natural disasters—typhoons, floods, earthquakes—and these are times when life and business do not proceed as usual. It's dangerous to tie the hands of elected leaders and threaten them with costly litigation during the times we most need them to take decisive action to protect public health and safety.

For example, it could be important for law enforcement to safeguard unsecured firearms in damaged areas to prevent them from being stolen, or to not allow personally-owned firearms to be brought into shelters managed by the military, a government agency or the Red Cross.

Even more egregious, the bill allows any person or special interest group to sue Alaska's government agencies if they feel they are adversely affected by such an action during a disaster emergency and win triple punitive damages.

Limiting these powers during a disaster is a threat to public safety. Please vote NO on HB 61.

Sincerely,

LIN G DAVIS
JUNEAU, AK 99801

Mina Ryan

From: Victoria OConnell Curran <victoria.oconnell@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 5:01 PM
To: House Community and Regional Affairs; Rep. CJ McCormick; Rep. Kevin McCabe; Rep. Thomas McKay; Rep. Josiah Patkotak; Rep. Justin Ruffridge; Rep. Rebecca Himschoot; Rep. Donna Mears
Subject: Oppose HB61 Limitations on Firearm Restrictions

Dear Committee Members:

My husband and I own 14 guns. We hunt to provide food for our family. We believe in common sense gun laws and we are opposed to House Bill 61. This law does not make Alaskans safer during a disaster and likely would have the opposite effect. As we read it is a narrowing of existing Alaska law and would allow individuals or special interest groups to act as the legal enforcers of this state law, through civil suits. It is ridiculous to mandate that a prevailing plaintiff would be due punitive damages of a minimum of three times their actual attorneys' fees, plus repayment of court and attorney fees. This bill seems to prevent common sense steps to provide for public safety and ensure peace during a disaster. We have much more pressing issues to address in our state, drop this please.

Please oppose HB61

Victoria OConnell Curran
Sitka, Alaska

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Tory O'Connell Curran
Grateful to live on Lingít Aaní