From:	Luann McVey
To:	House State Affairs; Rep. Laddie Shaw; Rep. Stanley Wright; Rep. Ben Carpenter; Rep. Craig Johnson; Rep. Jamie Allard; Rep. Jennie Armstrong; Rep. Andi Story
Subject:	Stop HB 61
Date:	Tuesday, April 11, 2023 7:53:31 AM

Dear Representatives Shaw, Wright, Carpenter, Johnson, Allard, Armstrong, and Story,

I am a retired Alaskan teacher and a volunteer with the Alaska Chapter of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense. I am opposed to HB 61 and I strongly urge you to keep this unnecessary and potentially harmful bill from passing out of your committee. I do not understand why we would prevent the governor, a state agency, or a municipality from taking action, during a declared disaster emergency, to restrict the possession, use or sale of a firearm, a firearm accessory, ammunition or other weapon. It does not make sense to stop our elected officials or agencies from temporarily closing gun stores or gun ranges during a declared disaster.

During a disaster emergency, emotions tend to run hot and our leaders might find it necessary to restrict gun use or sales, in order to limit the chaos that can erupt when angry people have easy access to firearms. I believe in the ability of our leaders to decide when such limits are necessary.

Please do not take away a tool that could be used for constructive purposes, to disarm those who might cause harm to others. Guns are not the answer to human strife, especially during a declared disaster emergency. I hope you will prevent this bill from passing out of your committee.

I implore you to put your time and energy into constructive legislation, such as requiring secure storage of firearms, or increasing funding for Alaskan schools, rather than crafting unnecessary legislation like HB 61.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Luann McVey
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