

Good Afternoon Chairman Klemin and members of the Judiciary committee,

My name is Susan Beehler a mother of 5, a grandmother of 3. I was born in North Dakota, a life long resident of North Dakota, a Mandan resident for almost 30 years, District 31, a small business owner, a founding member of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense of America, a former Girl Scout leader, camp director, camp cook, youth church director, camp director, camp cook, a domestic violence shelter advocate, a survivor of domestic violence not by my husband but my father.

I am opposed to HB 1311. I urge a do not pass.

I am not the "left". I am a common sense North Dakotan as are many of you. We all want safety in our homes, our communities. Safety is often times a perception what makes one feel secure may make another insecure.

I have been testifying since 2013 to a long string of bills which have loosened our gun laws with the most hashing over being able to have a loaded firearm anywhere and it seems like everywhere. I often hear scenarios of an unknown assailant coming into a home and the proliferation of our long-standing laws is being justified by the fear of this unknown intruder.

Looking to the crime reports from our ND Attorney General's office this is not the reality of the murders happening in our state. The reality is the victims know their killer.

Looking at the Homicide report for 2018 P2

<https://attorneygeneral.nd.gov/sites/ag/files/documents/2018-HomicideReport.pdf>

P. 7 a handgun was used in more of those murders in 2018 then since 1999.

Is this a correlation to the relaxing of our gun laws?

P. 10 of the report of the murders involved domestic violence, a husband, a family member, a boyfriend committing the murder.

P. 11 & 13 An adult male is doing most of the killing.

In the Report for 2019 <https://attorneygeneral.nd.gov/sites/ag/files/documents/2019-HomicideReport>.

P. 4 Our state has had the most murders since 2000. Has the change in laws made us safer or less safe. Since most of the killings are women. These changes to the law do not make me as a woman feel safer. It seems it has made it easier for the assailant to obtain their weapon of choice, a firearm.

P. 13 most murders occur in the residence/home.

The boogie man is not a stranger.

The scenarios of the women needing protection from some random assailant is not the North Dakota reality. It is a fantasy where some guy with his concealed permit is going to come in and save his family, his damsel in distress.

The reality is their is blood running in our homes

P29 we have had a 75% increase in murder.

Will this Bill make our homes safer? You have been elected to make laws that protect all our citizens and insure our rights are protected. Dead women no longer have rights, so when you vote are you protecting those most likely to be murdered by a firearm or making it easier for them to be killed? The majority of this committee is men. I urge you to protect your daughters, mothers and the women in our great state by voting a do not pass on HB1311.

Susan Beehler

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