

**Testimony of Angela Beck**  
**Volunteer with Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America**  
**Kansas State House - House Federal and States Affairs Committee Hearing**  
**March 7, 2024, 9:00 AM**

Dear Chairman Carpenter, Committee members, and staff. Thank you for hearing my testimony today.

My name is Angela Beck.

I have lived in Kansas since 1981. After moving around every few years as a child, once moving here in 10th grade I set down firm roots. I went to college at Baker University and graduate school at Emporia State University. My husband and I have raised our family here and our youngest went to the University of Kansas for undergrad and is about to graduate from KU Law in May. Kansas is my home and I love our state with all my heart.

I am testifying today because HB 2803 is a dangerous gun bill that seeks to prohibit Kansas law enforcement and law enforcement agencies from assisting in the enforcement of certain federal gun laws.

As a parent, I am deeply concerned about where we are headed with the rate of gun suicide and gun homicide in our state. In Kansas, the rate of gun suicide increased **14%** and gun homicide increased **102%** from 2012 to 2021—we are headed in the wrong direction!

This bill poses several significant concerns:

- HB 2803 would attempt to nullify certain federal gun laws by preventing Kansas state and local law enforcement from assisting in the enforcement of these laws, and penalizing police, prosecutors, and other Kansas government employees who participate in the enforcement of federal public safety laws.
- HB 2803 would frustrate law enforcement's ability to enforce public safety laws within the state. Similar laws have already been declared unconstitutional - on March 3, 2023, a federal judge in Kansas City struck down the Second Amendment Preservation Act, Missouri's nullification statute, ruling that it is unconstitutional. Even portions of HB 2803 that might survive a constitutional challenge would make Kansas law enforcement agencies subject to harassing lawsuits.
- While that statute was in effect in Missouri, law enforcement expressed that the policy made it much more difficult for state and local law enforcement to do their jobs, filing letters and even a lawsuit supported by 60 police chiefs in Missouri in opposition to the law. We want our law enforcement officers to have clear guidance on what they can and cannot do and this bill makes that complicated and confusing.

- Rather than prioritize legislation that will make it tougher for law enforcement to do their jobs and actually make Kansas citizens less safe, our lawmakers should focus their time and energy on reducing gun violence. Our leaders should be prioritizing common sense gun safety measures that actually protect communities from gun violence, not policies that would make it difficult for law enforcement officials to keep us safe.

I encourage members of the committee to vote **NO** on **HB 2803**.

This concludes my testimony.

Thank you,

Angela Beck