

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION

11250 WAPLES MILL ROAD FAIRFAX,

VIRGINIA 22030



NRA

January 23, 2024

House Federal and State Affairs Committee
300 W 10th Ave
Topeka, KS 66612

Dear Chairman Carpenter:

I am writing to you regarding HCR 5020 and the National Rifle Association's (NRA) position on this critical piece of legislation. HCR 5020 will amend section 4 of the Kansas Bill of Rights to ensure the right to keep and bear arms includes essential tools required to exercise that right and ensures the highest level of legal protection in the Kansas Constitution for this fundamental right.

Strict scrutiny is the highest standard of judicial review, or test, used by courts when the constitutionality of laws, regulations, or other governmental policies is challenged. This standard is properly applied in cases involving fundamental rights, yet anti-gun lawyers and judges have generally avoided using it when considering possible violations of the right to keep and bear arms. When using the standard of strict scrutiny, the court must presume that a government policy is unconstitutional, unless the government can prove that the policy is necessary to achieve a compelling state interest and that the policy is both narrowly tailored to achieve that purpose and employs the least restrictive means possible to do so.

For these reasons, and several others, the NRA strongly supports the passage of HCR 5020. Let the people of Kansas vote on this issue.

Sincerely,

Travis Couture-Lovelady
State Director – Kansas
NRA-ILA