

I am grateful for the opportunity to speak today in support of HCR 5020. I firmly believe we live in the greatest nation on earth and this very process continues to keep it that way. It is exciting for me, as an average citizen to take part in this.

A little background about me, I am your typical suburban mom. I have four kids. I spend a lot of time in the carpool lane. I am a PTA mom, a booster club mom, that list could go on and on. If there is a way to support my kids, I am there. Like everyone else in this room that is a parent, those kids are my life.

With that being said, I feel an immense amount of responsibility and duty to protect my children. One of the ways that I chose to stay prepared to defend myself and my children should the need ever arise, is by carrying a gun concealed. I am by no means a competitive shooter. I am just a mom who finds value in the second amendment. Before I made the decision to exercise my constitutional right, I went to great lengths to be a responsible gun owner. I set out to know and understand the state laws that pertain to conceal carry, I researched and purchased the proper safes for my home, I purchased related accessories to ensure I was carrying in safe manner, I obtained professional training and still take private lessons to this day, I took the CCW class, passed the test and met the requirements to receive my permit and most importantly, I do what is called the 3 P's on a regular basis. I practice, practice, practice. In order for me to feel comfortable carrying concealed I wanted to be certain I was a safe, responsible and educated gun owner. I would contend that the majority of people that choose to conceal carry feel the same and have taken similar measures.

How can we exercise our second amendment rights without being able to purchase ammo, components and/or accessories? It is my ask of this committee today to safeguard this right for all the citizens of Kansas and to let Kansas be an example to the other states in the union.