



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: AARON DORR		PHONE NUMBER: 573-338-4206	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI FIREARMS COALITION		TITLE: POLITICAL DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 1939 WENTZVILLE PARKWAY #302			
CITY: WENTZVILLE		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63385
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. AC "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN MYERS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ALISSA BECKNELL		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 5:10 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I oppose this bill for safety reasons. Stand Your Ground laws encourage armed vigilantism by allowing a person to shoot and kill another person in public even when they can walk away safely. Self-defense laws give us the right to protect ourselves and our families, and that includes using deadly force if necessary. We don't need a law that not only gives people the right to seek out dangerous situations, then shoot first, ask questions later. But this bill also serves to dismantle the core practice of due process in our criminal justice system.

- Extreme risk protection—or red flag—laws are critical, lifesaving tools that help keep firearms out of the hands of people who should not have them.
- Preempting local safety efforts. This bill would interfere with the autonomy of local government leaders who best know the safety needs for their own area. It would repeal the small exception in Missouri's preemption law which allows localities to regulate open carry of firearms for non-CCW holders. Thus it multiplies the public places where families would fear the threat of gun violence and undermines public safety and continues to weaken Missouri's already lax gun laws.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ALLISON BALL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 3:15 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

My name is Allison Ball and I am a resident of St. Charles, MO. I am writing in opposition of HB-2176. Missouri is ranked #40 in the nation for gun law strength and our state has seen a 9% increase in gun deaths from 2015 to 2024. The data does not support the further weakening our gun laws that is proposed in HB2176. This bill undermines due process within our criminal justice system and undermines the power of local governments to keep their citizens safe.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: AMANDA BUCKLES		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 3:48 PM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ANGELA CURTIS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 3:05 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I'm opposed to HB 2176 for the following reasons:

Missouri is in need of gun safety laws, not the further encouragement of armed vigilantism when a person can safely walk away.

Red flag laws are lifesaving tools - the lack of a red flag law in Missouri directly impacted the lack of ability to intervene with a St. Louis school shooter.

Local government leaders know the safety needs for their area; the statehouse shouldn't be interfering with local government.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ANN L WEAVER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/25/2026 12:31 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. Limits ability to keep people safe who are at danger of hurting others or themselves.		



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ANN LOHMAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/25/2026 6:43 PM
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Red flag laws are important for the safety of our citizens. People who are a danger to themselves or others should not have access to guns and local law enforcement should be able to endure federal laws.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ASHLEY COSSINS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 9:49 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ASHLEY O'DANIEL		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 5:43 PM	
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I oppose this bill.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BELLA FANTOZZI		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 8:58 PM

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As a student of a school that had had a school shooting in the past, I am very against guns. If better laws had been put in place my friends may not have lost a classmate. Please do not pass this law.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: BETH KANIA-GOSCHE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 8:13 PM	
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Age 18 is too young for this type of gun permit. If you research, people are more likely to turn a gun on themselves than an intruder. 60% of gun violence is suicide.

The third leading cause of death for teenagers is suicide. This law is intended to allow families to remove a gun from an individual at risk of suicide, This helps prevent deaths from suicide.

The red flag laws protect people from themselves when they are having severe mental health challenges.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BETSY VANDERHEYDEN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 9:56 PM
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HB 2176 is an unnecessary and dangerous bill. Extreme risk protection—or red flag—laws are critical, lifesaving tools that help keep firearms out of the hands of people who should not have them. It would interfere with the autonomy of local government leaders who best know the safety needs for their own area.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: BRITTANY KIEFER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 2:40 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

My name is Brittany Kiefer and I am a resident of the city of St. Louis. I oppose HB2176 because it broadens Stand Your Ground laws which encourage vigilantism. Laws like this allow people to seek violence, shoot first and ask questions later. Evidence shows that most victims in Stand Your Ground violence are in fact unarmed, not posing a deadly threat in the first place. If we had more common sense gun laws, there would less guns in our communities and less threat of violence that leads to people feeling emboldened in Stand Your Ground situations. I also think laws like this are proliferating the violence we are currently seeing by ICE agents against peaceful American citizens. We must uphold the core democratic principle of due process now more than ever. Allowing people sweeping immunity with these laws is a threat to our communities and our humanity. Just because a person says they feel threatened doesn't mean they actually are at risk. These laws matched with unchecked bias leads to greater threats against the black and brown community. Please oppose HB2176.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BRITTANY RUSSELL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 3:47 PM

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This bill is very irresponsible. At a time when our country continues to face a gun epidemic you waste our time and tax dollars on a bill that makes it easier to obtain gun, shoot first ask later, lowers the age CCW permits to 18, and not allow local governments to regulate open carry. How could anybody see this but irresponsible? It is possible to have the ability to obtain and own guns along with gun sense reform. The two can happen at the same time. The leading cause of death for American children and teens is firearms. They kill more of our children than cancer or anything else. Our children are being slaughtered in their schools. People can go to the grocery stores, movies, concerts without the fear of gun violence. Just a couple weeks ago in northland KC area a man shot and killed his neighbor over a dispute. If we had red flag laws unstable people like that could have been reported and possibly could have prevented a death. Our gun rate in our state continues to increase and we are ranked 40th for gun strength laws. Other countries have guns sense laws and don't have mass shootings and have lower gun violence. This is an American problem. Mass shootings are an American problem. Our children will continued to be slaughtered in their schools. Kids will continue to come home and have to listen to their kindergarteners tell them about the intruder drill they have to practice. This doesn't have to be this way. We can have the ability to purchase and own guns and had fun sense reform. They can work together. This bill is irresponsible. It puts citizens at risk for more gun violence. I oppose this irresponsible bill.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: BRITTANY WINEMILLER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 8:25 PM	
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As a domestic abuse survivor I can tell you that by making it impossible for authorities to uphold protection orders where firearms are a threat to victims is not only dangerous to victims and their own families but to others in the community including officers and medical professionals. By decreasing the accessibility to firearms in domestic abuse situations we increase the survival rate of abuse victims and others. Also by further expanding stand your ground laws in a state that already has an extended castle law in place is only opening the door for people to intentionally put themselves into conflict to justify using deadly force with people they deem worthy of death. This is not only risking diminishing our judicial system and stealing away the general public of a right to due process but to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. This bill if passed will deteriorate the being a well regulated militia within the second amendment.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CAROLE WEBSTER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/25/2026 1:55 PM	
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Victims of domestic violence deserve to be protected. This bill does not do that. In fact, it makes them more vulnerable.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CATHERINE GILBERT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 8:01 PM	
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HB 2176 addresses 3 separate gun laws.

1-Red Flag laws protect the public from one who is deemed homicidal or suicidal BY THE COURTS!!! Guns are temporarily stored in a safe place until the crisis is over for the individual. This is determined in court; due process is part of this. Had this been in place when the ST. Louis CVPA School shooting happened, law enforcement would've been allowed to remove guns from shooter who was in crisis. This bill prevents Red Flag laws in our state. We need this kind of law, not forbid it!

2- St. Louis City exercises its right to regulate the open carry of guns for non-CCW holders. We needed this because teens were openly carrying long guns in the city, terrorizing citizens and getting themselves in trouble. There are no cattle to protect in the STL urban environment as there are in rural areas. Teens in St. Louis carrying guns will most likely lead to bad outcomes. Every municipality should have the option to regulate open carry of guns, knowing what is best for its community. This bill prevents regulation of open carry by individual municipalities in Mo.

3- This is another version of the "Make Murder Legal Act". This is an expansion of "shoot first" or Stand Your Ground (SYG) law. We are a SYG state. This bill expands the privileges of a shooter by assuming the shooter is under threat and needs to defend themselves. They have no duty to retreat even when they can safely do so. This is especially dangerous for people of color who are perceived differently than Caucasians. Law enforcement cannot even arrest a shooter at the scene.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CHELSEA DEITERS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 9:05 PM	

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There are so many things that are absolutely terrifying and wrong with this bill. For example, Stand Your Ground laws encourage armed vigilantism by allowing a person to shoot and kill another person in public even when they can walk away safely. Self-defense laws give us the right to protect ourselves and our families, and that includes using deadly force if necessary. We don't need a law that not only gives people the right to seek out dangerous situations, then shoot first, ask questions later. But this bill also serves to dismantle the core practice of due process in our criminal justice system.

Extreme risk protection—or red flag—laws are critical, lifesaving tools that help keep firearms out of the hands of people who should not have them.

This bill would also interfere with the autonomy of local government leaders who best know the safety needs for their own area. It would repeal the small exception in Missouri's preemption law which allows localities to regulate open carry of firearms for non-CCW holders. Thus it multiplies the public places where families would fear the threat of gun violence and undermines public safety and continues to weaken Missouri's already lax gun laws.

Missouri's rate of gun deaths has increased 9% from 2015 to 2024. This means that in 2024 there were 139 more gun deaths than in 2015.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CINDY SPAETH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 8:27 PM
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Dear Sir or Madame:

As a mother and a longtime registered gun owner, I write to urge you to vote NO on HB 2176. Gun ownership is a serious matter, and ought to be treated as such. This bill makes a mockery of responsible gun ownership.

I grew up around guns and my own son got his first shotgun at age 12 (when he was old enough to take and pass hunter safety. My family owns land purchased solely for hunting and two immediate family members have worked for three different gun manufacturers. I am not someone who wants to ban all guns, but I am someone who believes in personal responsibility, public safety and the seriousness of gun ownership.

No responsible gun owner or parent would support putting lethal weapons in the hands of 18 year olds for very good reasons. It's the same reason car companies will not rent to anyone under 25. The brain doesn't even fully develop impulse control mechanisms until age 25. The Missouri Legislature itself acknowledges this by making liquor sales to this group illegal. Why, then, in God's name would you, as a legislator, put a lethal weapon in the hands of an age cohort that you don't even trust to drink a beer responsibly? Do you really think a beer is more dangerous than a gun?

I urge you to be a decent, responsible person, to think of the lives at stake, and to oppose this reckless law. To do anything else is irresponsible, and will make you morally complicit in the foreseeable death and mayhem that will result if this bill passes..

Most Sincerely,

Cynthia Spaeth
4557 Walnut St.
Kansas City, MO. 64111



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CYNTHIA HEDRICK		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 8:32 PM
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Red flag–laws are critical, lifesaving tools that help keep firearms out of the hands of people who should not have them. This bill would interfere with the autonomy of local government leaders who best know the safety needs for their own area. It would repeal the small exception in Missouri’s preemption law that allows localities to regulate the open carry of firearms by non-conceal carry weapon holders. This bill undermines public safety, and continues to weaken Missouri’s already lax gun laws.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DANIEL RUSSELL		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 4:42 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DANIELLE MEERT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 2:36 PM	
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DAVA-LEIGH BRUSH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 6:29 PM
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I oppose this bill.



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BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DAVE WEBSTER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/23/2026 1:41 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I oppose HB2176 for many reasons. To list a few:

- Blocks any cooperation with federal or out-of-state red-flag orders that could avert suicides, mass shootings, and domestic violence before tragedy occurs.
- The bill is driven more by anti-federal ideology and gun-lobby pressure than by looking at the facts of an incident.
- HB2176 could subject law enforcement officers to criminal penalty for trying to protect individuals and communities from potentially lethal harm.
- Removes ability of any municipality to enact any firearm law.

This bill removes protections from Missouri citizens and encourages lawlessness by those that are NOT law abiding, responsible gun owners.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DEVON T MCTYE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 1:53 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

This legislation is terrible and does not keep Missourians safer. It increases the likelihood that citizens will face more harm with guns. I oppose this bill as a victim of gun violence. Please vote no.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DIANA FRAZIER MILLER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 5:56 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DIANE K. WADE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 3:01 PM
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This is an egregious gun bill that I oppose.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DON CROZIER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 1:56 PM
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Red Flag laws are common sense and protect the public from one who is deemed homicidal or suicidal. Guns are temporarily stored in a safe place until the crisis is over. This is determined in court; due process is part of this. Had this been in place when the CVPA School shooting happened, law enforcement would've been allowed to remove guns from shooter who was in crisis. **LIVES WOULD HAVE BEEN SAVED!**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DOREEN KOZENY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 2:45 PM
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Missouri Constitution says that only one topic is allowed for Bill and this has three topics. Red flag laws protect the public from those people who are deemed suicidal/ homicidal by the courts. Every municipality in St. Louis should have the option to regulate open carry of guns to protect the community.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: EA FRANKLIN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 6:20 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

My testimony is a mix of opposition and an informational question and comment. I oppose the provisions of this bill that blocks any cooperation with federal or out of state red flag orders that could avert suicides, mass shootings, and domestic violence before tragedy occurs. I also do not concur with removing the ability of any municipality to enact any firearm law. However, I do find the following portion of this bill (copied in below with line numbers) seems to raise questions:

40 5. [The defendant shall have the burden of injecting the issue of justification under
41 this section. If a defendant asserts that his or her use of force is described under subdivision 42 (2)
43 of subsection 2 of this section, the burden shall then be on the state to prove beyond a
44 reasonable doubt that the defendant did not reasonably believe that the use of such force was
45 of unlawful force] There shall be a presumption of reasonableness under this section that
46 the defendant believed such force was necessary to defend himself or herself or a third
47 person from what he or she believed to be the use or imminent use of unlawful force by
48 another person.

If I read correctly, this would indicate that if ICE/CPB (for example given recent events) unlawfully enters a home without a warrant, it appears this allows a presumption of reasonable defense to use a firearm against federal agents in self-protection. Given the federal government recent shootings of persons in this country and breaking into homes unlawfully, this presumption of reasonableness under this section that the defendant believed such force was necessary is very real. Although I'd rather see the federal government immigration policy not result in killing and abductions, it appears this bill allows Missourians to legally fire upon persons possibly representing the federal government under this paragraph. We know the federal government has allowed fully armed government personnel to enter homes without a warrant. I'm interested to know if this a correct reading of this bill and is this the intent? I'm concerned about this section and would be interested to hear the sponsor more clearly explain exactly what "presumption of reasonableness" means. Thank you for the opportunity. Last note, the bill sponsor seemed very opinionated about 'well-funded agitators' in another state, citing no evidence. I am embarrassed to see this conduct and would suggest the chairman call a point of order. The chairman should limit such irrelevant banter and give the questioner their time back when this occurs. I presume the sponsor was referring to the man shot and killed by federal personnel while lawfully carrying a firearm, an absurd comment with no proof. This comment was unprofessional and I'd hope the chairman would disallow this type of inappropriate comment in the future; it lessens the seriousness of the committee.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ELLIE BLEDSOE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 9:16 PM

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This bill is a dangerous expansion of Missouri’s already weak gun laws that will cost lives. It does three deeply troubling things:

First, it expands Stand Your Ground protections that encourage armed vigilantism. Self-defense laws already allow us to protect ourselves and our families with deadly force when necessary. But this bill goes further—it protects people who seek out dangerous situations and shoot first, ask questions later. Research from the RAND Corporation and multiple peer-reviewed studies shows that Stand Your Ground laws are associated with significant increases in firearm homicides. Worse, this bill dismantles due process by preventing prosecutors from even bringing charges in cases where someone claims self-defense, no matter how questionable that claim may be. This removes a fundamental check in our criminal justice system—the ability to investigate and prosecute potentially unlawful killings.

Second, it prohibits extreme risk protection orders—the red flag laws that are proven, lifesaving tools for temporarily removing firearms from people in crisis. According to research published by Everytown Research, every 10-20 extreme risk protection order cases filed prevents one suicide. Connecticut’s extreme risk law alone prevented an estimated 142 suicides over a 20-year period. These orders include robust due process protections while preventing tragedies. This bill would eliminate that critical safety measure just when family members, law enforcement, or medical professionals identify someone as a danger to themselves or others.

Third, it preempts local safety efforts by stripping away the small exception that currently allows localities to regulate open carry by non-CCW holders. Local leaders know their communities’ safety needs best—whether that’s protecting families at farmers markets, ensuring safety near schools, or addressing specific public safety challenges. This bill would override their judgment and force every Missouri community to allow open carry in public spaces where families gather, regardless of local concerns or conditions.

The results of Missouri’s gun law rollback speak for themselves: our gun death rate increased 9% from 2015 to 2024—that’s 139 more deaths in a single year. We rank 40th nationally for gun law strength, in the bottom ten states. Over the past two decades, Missouri lawmakers have systematically dismantled virtually all significant gun restrictions that once made our state safer.

Missouri doesn’t need weaker gun laws. We need laws that protect public safety, preserve due process, and respect local decision-making—not ones that encourage vigilantism, eliminate proven safety tools, and tie the hands of local leaders trying to keep their communities safe.

I urge you to oppose HB 2176. Thank you for your consideration.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: EMILIE OVERBERG		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 6:29 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am asking legislators to vote against HB 2176. Missouri ranks so low in our country on gun safety. Not only are we putting Missourians at risk for being victims of gun related injuries, we are also diminishing responsible gun owners' ability to have wide stream access to safe practices.

I am a mother and live in daily fear of my children being involved in a gun related injury at school, at Church, at stores. They live in daily fear and know no where is safe, especially in Missouri, where it's more likely to be injured by a gun.

Please consider voting against HB 2176, help us make Missouri safer for all of us.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: EMILY SCHILTZ		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 7:12 PM
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Please support anything that keeps guns out of the hands of known abusers. Please don't make it harder to access extreme risk protection for abuse victims.

And please let local government leaders have some say in what is best for their own area. Please don't strip local leaders of a voice with actual impact in their own localities.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: EMILY STOINSKI		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/23/2026 4:37 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

My name is Emily Stoinski, and I am a registered Missouri voter. I am writing today in opposition to HB 2176. As someone who has worked with and for domestic violence survivors, many who have been victims of gun violence, I know that red flag laws can save lives. In the same way that someone can have their drivers' license suspending, I believe firearms should have the same treatment. To me, I would rather someone unfairly get their firearm taken than to risk someone potentially losing their life when the firearm could have been removed in the first place. I live in a region that often shares stories of children who have been killed by guns that the person who killed them should have never had in the first place. We can do better for the kids of Missouri.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ERIN ELLINGER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 2:52 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I wish to share my opposition for HB 2176. This is a bad gun bill that would endanger the lives of Missourians who are already at risk from being residents of the state ranked 40th in gun law strength. This law would preempt public safety efforts and put more citizens in the path of gun violence. Expanding Stand Your Ground legislation is the opposite of what this country, especially Missouri, needs. Please put forward common sense gun legislation like Red Flag laws and universal background checks instead.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: FLORENCE L. STREETER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 5:20 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

**Common sense. Keep our officers safe. Red Flag laws keep us all safe.
Teenagers in urban settings running around with long guns is a recipe for disaster. I don't think it needs more explanation than that.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GAYLE LARSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 4:20 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am **OPPOSED** to this egregious gun bill!

1. Red Flag laws protect the public from one who is deemed homicidal or suicidal **BY THE COURTS!!** Had this been in place when the St. Louis CVPA School shooting happened, law enforcement would have been allowed to remove guns from the shooter who was in crisis.

2. St. Louis City should exercise its right to regulate the open carry of guns for non-CCW holders. I mean, seriously, there are no cattle to protect in the STL urban environment as there is in rural areas. Every municipality should have the option to regulate open carry of guns, knowing what is best for its community.

3. This is just another version of the "Make Murder Legal Act". An assumption of perceived threat and self defense should **NOT** be the default when someone uses deadly force against another. This is especially dangerous for people of color who are perceived differently than Caucasians.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GINA MEYER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 2:26 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

My father, a Korean War Veteran, died a week before Father's Day because MO does not have a red flag law. I asked my brothers to remove his guns, and they did. But he complained to them so much, they returned them without telling me. I found out he died by suicide when the police called me as my daughter, grandchildren, and I were planning to visit him later that morning. He would not have died that day if I had the option to have a depressed veteran's guns removed by law enforcement with a court order, and not have to depend on my brothers. Now we all have to live with the consequences. Please don't make another family live with this trauma. Red flag laws protect families and save lives.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GLORIA ROBINSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 3:53 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Stand Your Ground laws encourage armed vigilantism by allowing a person to shoot and kill another person in public even when they can walk away safely.

Missouri's rate of gun deaths has increased 9% from 2015 to 2024. This means that in 2024 there were 139 more gun deaths than in 2015.

This bill would dismantle the core practice of due process in our criminal justice system.

Missouri ranked #40 for gun law strength. Over the past two decades, Missouri lawmakers have carried out a long-term dismantling of virtually all of the state's significant gun restrictions. which has left our state in the bottom ten for the weakest gun laws in the country.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: IDA FOGLE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 9:12 PM	
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I have lost relatives and friends to gun violence. In at least one case, I strongly believe a red flag law would have prevented a needless death. In addition, individual communities are the best judges of their own needs in the area of firearms regulation. Let cities decide on their ordinances.

We do not need more encouragement for anyone to shoot first. We've see the tragic results to innocent lives when teens or others were merely mixed up on and address or were seeking help with a broken down car when people think the solution to everything is to shoot before asking questions.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JANICE STALLINGS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 6:48 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Vote "no" on HB 2176. The people of Missouri already have the right to self-defense. No one bears a right to shoot first, ask questions later, and assume it's the sheriff's or prosecutor's job to prove they were in the wrong. Extreme risk and red flag orders allow officials to temporarily intervene when an individual poses a threat to themselves or to others. Law enforcement also needs more, not less, local control of people's doings. It would make sense that small government and local control would enhance LEOs' authority. Yet HB 2176 would repeal that portion of the law which lets localities regulate the open carry of firearms for non-CCW holders. Bad guys already want to intimidate others in public. If our State House appears to bless these brazen shows via bills like HB 2176, it will help our citizens even less. Missouri's rate of gun deaths has increased 9% from 2015 to 2024, and we rank fortieth in the US regarding our gun laws' strength. Relaxing the vigor of our firearm statutes does not seem to have made us safer; if anything, many communities are less safe today. Please vote "no" on HB 2176.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JEAN C KNAPP		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 9:07 PM	

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I oppose this bill because it will interfere with the autonomy of local government leaders who best know the safety needs for their own area. It would repeal the small exception in Missouri's preemption law which allows localities to regulate open carry of firearms for non-CCW holders. Thus it multiplies the public places where citizens are put at risk by untrained, unvetted people carrying a weapons. It is not true that a "good guy with a gun" will protect us; only strong gun laws and cooperation between branches of law enforcement save lives. If you truly want to save lives, don't pass this bill out of committee!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JENNIFER MAYER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 7:28 PM	
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I strongly oppose any legislation that makes my community less safe and I strongly believe that passing this bill will make my community even less safe.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JENNIFER SHIRLEY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 1:51 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This will not make MO safer. NO on HB2176



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JOAN GENTRY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/27/2026 10:10 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Dear General Laws Committee Members,
I am asking you to vote against HB 2176.

This bill removes any cooperation with officials that could prevent mass tragedies before they occur. Cities will not be able to enact their own firearm laws. Spend some time and ask yourself and your colleagues the hard questions. Think about the repercussions and Vote NO.
Joan Gentry, Springfield



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JULIANN DEPALMA HESED		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 7:37 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

This law will not add to public safety but rather will put more people at risk for being shot to death. I remember the day my grandson rang the door of a neighbor, who when she saw his color began screaming that he should not harm her. In fact, he was politely asking if he might retrieve his soccer ball from her yard. This law would have allowed - even encouraged - her to shoot a tall 14 year old boy of color who loves soccer.Ju



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JULIE TEVLIN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 7:26 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am reaching out because I believe that HB 2176 is an incredibly dangerous bill. As a stay at home mother and former teacher, gun violence is a huge issue in the state of Missouri. I have seen the fear from lock down drills and have seen the devastation of students from the result of gun violence. Missouri is in the bottom 10 states for the weakest gun laws and it shows. We can respect the Second Amendment without risking the safety of everyday citizens. Missouri's rate of gun deaths has increased 9% from 2015 to 2024. This means that in 2024 there were 139 more gun deaths than in 2015. This is not acceptable. We need to do better as state. This bill further weakens our gun laws and also serves to dismantle the core practice of due process in our criminal justice system. Missouri can and should be better than this.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KATE BROOKS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 8:32 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

This anti-red flag bill repeats and compiles extremism bills that have weakened gun safety laws on the state. Our state has had a 9% increase in gun deaths from 2015-2024. We rank #40 for gun law strength. May we care more about the safety of our children as we do about our guns in this state!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KATHIE L ALLISON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/26/2026 6:18 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

- ? Blocks any cooperation with federal or out-of-state red-flag orders that could avert suicides, mass shootings, and domestic violence before tragedy occurs
- ? Removes ability of any municipality to enact any firearm law
- ? Appears motivated by anti-federal ideology and gun-lobby pressure rather than by looking at the facts of the case



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KATHRYN JENSEN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 11:53 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

If there had been Red Flag laws 40 years ago, my dear uncle might not have shot himself with his hunting gun. We knew he was s depressed and he was under care of mental health professional, but no one told us we should take his hunting weapons away to protect him. Preventing suicides is an excellent.reason to pass Red Flag laws. We do NOT need to strengthen Stand.Your Ground Laws. People already have the right to protect them selves, their families. We must not support people shooting first, ask questions later, when they could retreat. And lowering the age for CCW is just foolish! Young men's brains do not mature until about age 24! That is just fact!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KELLY POLLOCK		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 7:29 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

As the mother of two young people and someone who has spent her entire career in Missouri working to advocate for children, build community and strengthen families, I am vehemently opposed to this bill. This bill further weakens Missouri gun laws and we are already ranked #40 in gun law strength. I don't want to live in a state that gives people a license to kill as the first line of defense, with no questions asked. Our country and state have had due process at the heart of our justice system and unfortunately, this bill seeks to further erode that practice in our court system.

Finally, data overwhelmingly shows that "shoot first" laws that have been implemented in other states INCREASE gun deaths – deaths that otherwise would not have occurred. And, these types of laws fail to protect our most vulnerable community members. There is NO research that shows these laws lead to better outcomes.

We need to be protecting our residents and attracting families to our state. This bill does NOT make families safer. Please, for the sake of all of our children, do not pass this bill and make our gun laws, even weaker than they already are. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KIMBERLY MAXWELL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 5:08 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Missouri's rate of gun deaths has increased 9% from 2015 to 2024. This means that in 2024 there were 139 more gun deaths than in 2015.

Missouri ranked #40 for gun law strength. Over the past two decades, Missouri lawmakers have carried out a long-term dismantling of virtually all of the state's significant gun restrictions. That has left our state in the bottom ten for the weakest gun laws in the country.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KORTNIE HUDDLESTON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 10:19 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I stand firmly against HB 2176, which recklessly undermines public safety under the guise of expanding gun rights. This bill represents a dangerous escalation in Missouri's already lax gun laws and will directly put our communities at greater risk.

The so-called "Anti-Red Flag Gun Seizure Act" is particularly alarming. By prohibiting enforcement of extreme risk protection orders—tools proven to save lives by temporarily removing firearms from individuals in crisis—this bill prioritizes unrestricted gun access over preventing suicides and mass shootings. It ties the hands of law enforcement and families attempting to intervene before tragedy occurs.

Furthermore, lowering the concealed carry age to 18 and introducing lifetime permits ignores basic safety principles. Eighteen-year-olds are still developing judgment, and background checks should be recurring, not a one-time formality. The bill also strips local governments of their ability to enact commonsense regulations tailored to their communities, overriding local democracy.

By creating broad immunity for gun use and shifting legal burdens, this legislation encourages vigilante justice and makes it harder to hold people accountable for violence. It prioritizes the firearms industry and gun owners over the safety of children, families, and public spaces.

We need laws that reduce gun violence, not amplify it. This bill moves Missouri in the wrong direction. I urge you to reject HB 2176 and focus on evidence-based policies that protect all Missourians.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: KRISTEN BOWEN		PHONE NUMBER: 573-875-4487
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MOMS DEMAND ACTION FOR GUN SENSE IN AMERICA		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 614 W STEWART RD.		
CITY: COLUMBIA		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65203
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 12:00 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LAURA BURKHARDT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 9:26 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Every portion of this bill makes Missouri's already lax gun laws even more dangerous. We have one of the highest rates of gun deaths in the nation. This legislation will only increase those senseless deaths. It's long past time for the legislature to follow data based research to enact laws that will keep Missourians safe, not add to the preventable gun deaths we see day after day. I strongly urge the committee to vote NO on this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LAURA MARCUS MOUNTJOY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/26/2026 1:15 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Dear representatives,

Please consider these points and vote NO on HB 2308.

-Blocks any cooperation with federal or out-of-state red-flag orders that could avert suicides, mass shootings, and domestic violence before tragedy occurs

-Removes ability of any municipality to enact any firearm law

-Appears motivated by anti-federal ideology and gun-lobby pressure rather than by looking at the facts of the case



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LAURA PATTERSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 8:27 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

HB 2176 is wrong for Missouri. Extremist legislators want to weaken our already minimal gun laws. Missouri's state if gun deaths has increased by 9% from 2015 to 2024, and many of those deaths have been CHILDREN! Red flag laws are critical to keep weapons out of the hands of people who should not have them. We already have self-defense laws. We do NOT need Stand Your Ground laws. This bill is unnecessary and dangerous. As a mother and grandmother, my family deserves to be safe from gun violence. Vote NO.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LAURA VANDERLAAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 8:42 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Red flag laws are proven, lifesaving tools that help keep firearms out of the hands of people who pose a danger to themselves or others. This bill would undermine those protections by stripping local leaders—who best understand the unique safety needs of their communities—of the authority to act. Please do not pass this.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LAURA ZINK		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 4:55 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I oppose this bill because it will weaken Missouri's already weak gun laws and endangers our families and neighbors. This bill dismantles due process and encourages armed vigilantism when its not needed to protect ourselves, due to existing laws. This law would encourage people to seek out dangerous situations and then shoot first, and worry about details later. Staunch second amendment supporters may think this is a good idea, but actually would endanger their lives when around other gun owners.

This bill interferes with the autonomy of local government leaders who best know the safety needs of their area. We need red flag laws (or extreme risk protection) to keep firearms out of the hands of dangerous people. It would repeal the exception in Missouri's preemption law that allows localities to regulate open carry of firearms by non-CCW holders. This undermines public safety. Missouri's gun deaths have increase 9% from 2015 to 2024 and we don't want that number to keep going up.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LESLIE ANNE WASHINGTON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 2:55 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

My name is Leslie Anne Washington and I am a survivor of domestic and firearms violence. I stand in opposition of HB2176 for the following reasons, Missouri is #40 in the country for gun law strength and has the 4th highest rate of gun violence in the U.S. Extreme Risk Protection laws or red flag laws are critical, lifesaving tools that help keep firearms out of the hands of people who should not have them. Also, Missouri's rate of gun deaths have increased 9 percent from 2015 to 2024. this means there were 139 more gun deaths than in 2015. As a survivor, I feel that we should hold people accountable for their actions. this bill should not pass in the House nor make it to the floor.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LESLIE JONES		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 11:11 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Missouri is not doing great in regard to gun safety laws or yearly firearm deaths. Bills like these will not improve these areas and could very well make things worse. I believe we need to pause and think about what Missouri really needs to be focused on right now to make it a better place, not looser guns laws and less local control.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LINDA KRAM		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 2:35 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LORI GREEN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 3:19 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I do not want anti red flag laws. Are you crazy? Red flag laws offer protection when emotions are flaring. We do not need to expand Shoot First and we should not inhibit local governments from making laws to protect their citizens. I thought you were all about local gov't control? You are until they do something you don't like. Please do not advance this bill. It will cause untold harm to Missouri citizens.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LORI VAZQUEZ		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 8:06 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Missouri ranked #40 for gun law strength. Over the past two decades, Missouri lawmakers have carried out a long-term dismantling of virtually all of the state's significant gun restrictions. That has left our state in the bottom ten for the weakest gun laws in the country. We need to protect our communities and our schools.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LORI WALKER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 8:13 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This will cause unlimited harm to people by others who either aren't mature enough or mentally incompetent! Gun laws are lax enough! It's like giving people a license to murder without repercussions!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LYNDA STEWART		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 11:54 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I strongly oppose this "Anti-Red Flag" bill. Missouri has the 10th highest rate of gun suicides and gun suicide attempts in the country. There are times when guns need to be removed from a person who is deemed at risk to himself or others. Extreme Risk Protection Orders allow for legal process that protects constitutional rights while also protecting public safety. We should be enacting ERPO laws not banning them. I urge you to vote NO on this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LYNNE GRONFELD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 5:57 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am **OPPOSED** to the passage of HB 2176.

First, with the confusion and chaos sown by ICE and CBP in the streets, do you really want **MORE** untrained civilian and teenagers with firearms in the streets putting the law enforcement officers at even greater danger?

Second, when you try to pass these bills, you are picturing yourselves and your kids. Do you really want to do away with KC and STL's need to control gun traffic on their city streets?

For these two issues, I stand **AGAINST** HB 2176.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MAHREE SKALA		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/26/2026 11:56 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Cooperation among law enforcement agencies is essential to help prevent mass shootings, suicides and domestic violence. We have a police officer in our family and this law would only make her job more difficult and dangerous. It also usurps local control.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MARCIA CRANDALL		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/26/2026 5:05 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

How many more women, children and veterans have to die before you quit fanatically doing the NRA's bidding?



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MARILYN MARCUS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 3:04 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

This bill will endanger Missouri citizens' right to safety. Gun owners have plenty of rights already. Do not allow this dangerous bill to pass.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARILYN MCLEOD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/26/2026 2:10 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This bill is totally unnecessary and foolish. It would block any cooperation with federal or out-of-state red-flag orders that could avert suicides, mass shootings, and domestic violence before tragedy occurs.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MARK FITZPATRICK		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/26/2026 6:56 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

This bill further weakens public safety. It does not affect responsible gun owners. Guns need to be removed by law enforcement without threat of fines. And looser Stand Your Ground laws invariably lead to more homicides. This bill makes no sense.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MARY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 8:01 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

1-Red Flag laws protect the public from one who is deemed homicidal or suicidal BY THE COURTS!!! Guns are temporarily stored in a safe place until the crisis is over for the individual. This is determined in court; due process is part of this. Had this been in place when the ST. Louis CVPA School shooting happened, law enforcement would've been allowed to remove guns from shooter who was in crisis. This bill prevents Red Flag laws in our state. We need this kind of law, not forbid it!

2- St. Louis City exercises its right to regulate the open carry of guns for non-CCW holders. We needed this because teens were openly carrying long guns in the city, terrorizing citizens and getting themselves in trouble. There are no cattle to protect in the STL urban environment as there are in rural areas. Teens in St. Louis carrying guns will most likely lead to bad outcomes. Every municipality should have the option to regulate open carry of guns, knowing what is best for its community. This bill prevents regulation of open carry by individual municipalities in Mo.

3- This is another version of the "Make Murder Legal Act". This is an expansion of "shoot first" or Stand Your Ground (SYG) law. We are a SYG state. This bill expands the privileges of a shooter by assuming the shooter is under threat and needs to defend themselves. They have no duty to retreat even when they can safely do so. This is especially dangerous for people of color who are perceived differently than Caucasians. Law enforcement cannot even arrest a shooter at the scene.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARY GROSS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 1:28 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This bill addresses 3 separate gun laws. The Mo constitution says this is not allowed, but I digress. 1- Red Flag laws protect the public from one who is deemed homicidal or suicidal BY THE COURTS!!! Guns are temporarily stored in a safe place until the crisis is over for the individual. 2- St. Louis City exercises its right to regulate the open carry of guns for non-CCW holders. We needed this because teens were openly carrying long guns terrorizing citizens and getting themselves in trouble. There is no cattle to protect in an urban environment. Teens in St. Louis carrying guns will only come to bad outcomes. They don't need them. Every municipality should have this option, knowing what is best for its community. 3- This is another version of the "Make Murder Legal Act" I object. This is dangerous especially for people of color who are perceived differently than caucasians.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARY LISA PENILLA		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 7:25 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

The language in this bill begins from the assumption that a person in possession of a lethal weapon who fires upon another person if they feel threatened has acted "reasonably". But strong emotions, like fear no matter the cause, may distort a person's judgement. Having access to a gun and given permission to shoot without legal consequences may cause the person not to hesitate to shoot first rather than take a less lethal approach. We know that in Kansas City, a man who went to answer his door was afraid that he was going to be robbed so shot through the door, only to find that the 17 year-old victim had gone to the wrong house to pick up his siblings. Fear distorted the man's judgment when a less violent action could have been taken when he felt threatened. We cannot presume that a person who shoots first has acted reasonably ("the presumption of reasonableness") - that is for a court decide, and that law should not lower the bar when lethal force is involved. Otherwise, it gives permission to shoot first and think later. That is NOT what we want. This does NOT protect public safety but rather contributes to culture of fear and violence. Please, say NO to HB 2176.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MELISSA FOERSCHLER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 7:48 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This law is dangerous and will hurt Missourians. We have to be able to get help for our loved ones when they are in crisis. We are already one of the most dangerous states in the nation, this bill makes it worse. It also further inhibits municipalities from passed laws that are right for their community. Please vote no.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL DREYER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 10:19 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I stand firmly against HB 2176, which recklessly undermines public safety under the guise of expanding gun rights. This bill represents a dangerous escalation in Missouri's already lax gun laws and will directly put our communities at greater risk.

The so-called "Anti-Red Flag Gun Seizure Act" is particularly alarming. By prohibiting enforcement of extreme risk protection orders—tools proven to save lives by temporarily removing firearms from individuals in crisis—this bill prioritizes unrestricted gun access over preventing suicides and mass shootings. It ties the hands of law enforcement and families attempting to intervene before tragedy occurs.

Furthermore, lowering the concealed carry age to 18 and introducing lifetime permits ignores basic safety principles. Eighteen-year-olds are still developing judgment, and background checks should be recurring, not a one-time formality. The bill also strips local governments of their ability to enact commonsense regulations tailored to their communities, overriding local democracy.

By creating broad immunity for gun use and shifting legal burdens, this legislation encourages vigilante justice and makes it harder to hold people accountable for violence. It prioritizes the firearms industry and gun owners over the safety of children, families, and public spaces.

We need laws that reduce gun violence, not amplify it. This bill moves Missouri in the wrong direction. I urge you to reject HB 2176 and focus on evidence-based policies that protect all Missourians.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MOLLY SCHILTZ		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 11:12 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

In October of 2022, I became a survivor of a school shooting. The man who chose to take innocent lives that day was known to be mentally unwell and had already been looked into by police, though nothing had been done. I ask that you please reject this house bill that would weaken the opportunity for red flag laws to stop making it easier for known abusers to get guns.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: NANCY NELSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 8:14 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Missouri is in the bottom 10 of states which do not protect their citizens. I do not feel safe in my community now. We need more restrictions on guns, not fewer. Our rate of gun violence and death demonstrates that need. Please vote no on this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: NANCY ZELIFF		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/26/2026 5:29 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

This bill would block any cooperation with federal or out of state red flag orders that could avert suicides, mass shootings, and domestic violence before tragedy occurs. It would remove ability of any municipality to enact any firearm law and appears motivated by anti federal ideology and gun lobby pressure rather than by looking at the facts of the case where firearms were used.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: NICK FREED		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 5:10 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

This bill is dangerous to Missourians. Stand your ground laws allow people to shoot first and ask questions later even when they aren't in harms way. It allows bad actors to become vigilantes and kill citizens just to claim "self defense" later. It allows racists and hateful people to kill with abandon.

The anti-red flag laws also put Missourians in danger. Red flag laws keep guns out of the hands of violent people thus protecting women and children attempting to flee abusive situations. The second amendment doesn't mean guns all the time everywhere anytime. It's about responsible ownership. This bill creates danger unnecessarily and does nothing to protect Missourians. It is yet another overreach from the extreme GOP in this state.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: NOAH JACOB		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 9:38 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am a survivor of the 2022 St. Louis School shooting. The individual who shot his way into my school was visited by police three times before the incident. If Missouri had a red flag law, the police would have had the chance to remove the firearm each visit. Instead I had to run past a dead student bleeding out on the floor, with her last words, "help me," forever being engraved into my mind. Passing this bill will ensure another tragedy such as this happens in this state, and only thoughts and prayers will be given to remedy an issue that could be solved right now. Please do not pass this bill. I have lost so much faith in this state government, and if this is passed, that will only worsen. Children's lives are in your hands.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: NOEL KOPRIVA		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 4:01 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

HB 2176 is unconstitutional in prohibiting law enforcement from cooperating with federal law enforcement. Missouri police officers will be forced to choose between obeying state law and obeying federal law, and Missouri will lose access to federal resources in important endeavors like fighting drug trafficking across the state. This is my main objection to this bill, but the other is its stated "anti-red flag" aim of keeping guns in the hands of accused criminals. Women in intimate partner violence situations are much more likely to die if their abusive partners have a gun, and waiting until an investigation or trial has run its course for someone who's been accused of violent crime to be able to carry legally is a temporary suspension of that person's right to bear arms and isn't a violation of their rights, in my opinion. This is only common sense.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: OLIVIA MENDEZ-ALM		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 9:58 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Missouri already has lax gun laws, we don't need to make them even worse. This type of stand your ground type legislation just encourages folks to shoot first, as questions later. That's not the Missouri I want to raise my kids in.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: PATRICIA FISHER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 7:54 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As a Missouri citizen, I oppose HB 2176. Missouri already has some of the loosest gun laws in the nation, so it seems unnecessary and downright dangerous. This is not gun sense legislation and would be detrimental to Missourians.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: REBECCA BREWER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 10:27 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Red flag laws save lives. And as a responsible gun owner, I do not believe that we should be lowering the bar for gun safety related policies. You should be working to help mitigate the risk, not increase it with nonsense bills like this.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: REBECCA WHEELER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 8:03 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I stand in strong opposition to HB 2176. Gun violence is rampant and laws regulating firearms need to be strengthened, not weakened.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: RICHARD EGAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 9:03 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am opposed to any bill that weakens Missouri's gun safety laws, which are already weak.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: RIKE REUTER-HART		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 1:47 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I'm against this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: RIVA CAPELLARI		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/25/2026 5:57 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: RIVA CAPELLARI		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/25/2026 6:10 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ROBERT JOHNSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 2:35 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: RUTH PERA		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 11:59 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Owning a gun is a right of all American citizens, but like all of the rights we have, it can and should be curtailed when someone's exercising of that right puts others in undeniable and immediate danger. It's why you can't shout "Fire" in a crowded movie theatre. Having red flag laws in our state allows law enforcement and family members to help keep communities safe if an individual who owns the gun is exhibiting unsafe behaviors. Having appropriate red flag laws in place in MO could have preserved the students at CVPA and Collegiate HS in St. Louis from a school shooting. Mo can do better, and should do better.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SAMUEL COHEN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 2:35 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Here's why I oppose this bill:

- Stand Your Ground laws encourage armed vigilantism by allowing a person to shoot and kill another person in public even when they can walk away safely. Self-defense laws give us the right to protect ourselves and our families, and that includes using deadly force if necessary. We don't need a law that not only gives people the right to seek out dangerous situations, then shoot first, ask questions later. But this bill also serves to dismantle the core practice of due process in our criminal justice system.
- Extreme risk protection—or red flag—laws are critical, lifesaving tools that help keep firearms out of the hands of people who should not have them.
- Preempting local safety efforts interferes with autonomy of local government leaders who best know the safety needs for their own area.
- Missouri's rate of gun deaths has increased 9% from 2015 to 2024. This means that in 2024 there were 139 more gun deaths than in 2015.
- Missouri ranked #40 for gun law strength. Over the past two decades, Missouri lawmakers have carried out a long-term dismantling of virtually all of the state's significant gun restrictions. That has left our state in the bottom ten for the weakest gun laws in the country.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SARAH BERRY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/26/2026 3:08 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I submit this testimony in strong opposition to HB 2176.

This bill is not a measured public-safety reform.

It is a sweeping, ideologically driven restructuring of Missouri law that increases legal risk, undermines local authority, and exposes taxpayers to massive liability—without addressing the real causes of crime or violence.

HB 2176 does three dangerous things simultaneously:

First, it creates legal chaos for law enforcement and local governments.

By prohibiting enforcement of broadly defined “red flag laws,” attaching \$50,000 civil penalties per occurrence, stripping sovereign immunity, and mandating attorney’s fees, this bill places officers and counties in an impossible position.

In real-world crisis situations—domestic violence, mental health emergencies, credible threats—split-second decisions now carry catastrophic legal consequences.

This is not constitutional clarity; it is litigation bait.

Second, it shifts the cost of ideology directly onto Missouri taxpayers.

Every civil penalty, lawsuit, injunction, and insurance premium increase created by this bill will be paid not by lawmakers, but by counties, cities, and residents—many of whom already live in under-resourced, high-crime areas.

HB 2176 does not reduce crime; it guarantees more lawsuits.

Third, it weakens accountability while expanding presumptions of justified force.

The bill broadens immunity standards and presumptions of reasonableness while simultaneously limiting tools used to intervene before violence occurs.

That combination increases escalation risk and decreases meaningful review after harm has already

happened. Public safety policy should reduce violent outcomes—not make them harder to question after the fact.

From a constitutional standpoint, this bill also raises serious concerns under separation of powers and due process principles by attempting to nullify judicial orders and preempt local governance in favor of rigid, statewide mandates disconnected from on-the-ground realities.

Missouri does not lack firearms law.

Missouri lacks investment in prevention, accountability, and community safety infrastructure. HB 2176 addresses none of those deficits.

This bill substitutes slogans for solutions and shifts the fallout onto the public.

I urge the committee to reject HB 2176 and instead focus on legislation that actually reduces violence, supports lawful self-defense without dismantling accountability, and protects taxpayers from unnecessary legal exposure.

When the first preventable tragedy occurs under this framework, the question will not be whether the law allowed it—but who knowingly voted to remove the safeguards that could have stopped it.

-Rev. Sarah M. Berry



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SLOAN SHEFFIELD COWELL		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 9:16 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: STACY TURPIN CHEAVENS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 11:59 PM	

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Self-defense laws give us the right to protect ourselves and our families, and that includes using deadly force if necessary. We don't need a law that not only gives people the right to shoot first, ask questions later.

Further, this bill would interfere with the autonomy of local government leaders who best know the safety needs for their own area. "Red-flag" laws can help de-escalate emergency situations by allowing family members and law enforcement (who are often the first people to see the warning signs) to intervene by petitioning a court for an order to temporarily prevent someone in crisis (and considering harming themselves or others) from accessing guns. "Red-flag" laws save lives!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: STEFANIE BUSCHER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 5:22 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am writing in opposition to HB 2176. I am a fan of small government and pro-police. This bill takes away power from local governments as it prevents counties and municipalities from enacting their own firearm controls beyond state law and that leaves our officers in a helpless position.

Secondly, this bill seeks to lower the legal age to obtain a gun in Missouri. Sure, we want “good guys’ with guns, but that means that the “good guy” has a fully developed prefrontal cortex (which is not fully developed until your mid-twenties). Lowering the legal age for obtaining a gun shows a devastating lack of concern for Missouri’s youth. In 2023, there were 74 gun-related deaths among young people ages 1–17 in Missouri. And in 2024 there were an estimated 4,257 Missouri youth (under the age of 18) that suffered gunshot wound injuries. There is absolutely no need to lower the legal age to conceal carry in Missouri.

Thirdly, removing red flags is a terrible idea. Even with an order of protection in place, my abuser didn’t get rid of their firearms, causing me to be in even more fear. It is wild to me that any member of our state legislature thinks it’s a good idea to put Missouri women and children at even more risk.

I will close with a recent quote from President Donald J Trump: “you can’t have guns, you can’t walk in with guns.” 1/27/2026

Thank you for your attention to the matter.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SUMMER JOSEPHSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/26/2026 7:55 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am a Missouri voter & I oppose HB 2176.

This bill appears to be a product of gun lobbyists rather than a response to actual issues in our state. It would block cooperation with federal or out of state red flag orders that could avert suicides, mass shootings, and domestic violence before tragedy occurs. Furthermore, it would interfere with local government by preventing any municipality to enact any firearm law.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN GIBSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/26/2026 2:16 PM
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I can understand that someone with the bill sponsor's history doesn't consider the safety of women, but I do, and I urge rejection of this dangerous bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SUZANNE MCGINNIS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 10:57 PM

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Sometimes family need outside help to secure weapons. We need this option available. I would hope that any gun owner would want their weapons secured, especially if they are having a crisis.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: TARA REUTER JOHNSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 2:03 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

#1 - Red Flag laws protect the public from one who is deemed homicidal or suicidal BY THE COURTS!!! Guns are temporarily stored in a safe place until the crisis is over for the individual. This is determined in court; due process is part of this. Had this been in place when the CVPA School shooting happened, law enforcement would've been allowed to remove guns from shooter who was in crisis. #2 - St. Louis City exercises its right to regulate the open carry of guns for non-CCW holders. We needed this because teens were openly carrying long guns in the city, terrorizing citizens and getting themselves in trouble. There are no cattle to protect in the STL urban environment as there is in rural areas. Teens in St. Louis carrying guns will only come to bad outcomes. Every municipality should have the option to regulate open carry of guns, knowing what is best for its community. #3 - This is another version of the "Make Murder Legal Act". An assumption of perceived threat and self defense is the default when someone uses deadly force against another. This is especially dangerous for people of color who are perceived differently than Caucasians. Law enforcement cannot even arrest a shooter at the scene.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2176		DATE: 1/28/2026
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: TAYLOR KEMPFER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 2:59 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This is a dangerous bill that goes against legitimate statistics on preventing actual violence and protecting victims. We don't need more stand your ground laws. We already have self defense laws in place that protect victims. This does nothing but allow more bad people to do bad things without facing proper repercussions and he full extent of the law. Please vote no on this bill. Thank you for your attention to this matter.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: TIM AND JOLENE GROSCH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 9:08 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Red Flag laws protect the public from one deemed homicidal or suicidal by the courts. Guns are temporarily stored in a safe place until the crisis is over. This is determined in court; due process is part of this. Such laws would have prevented the St. Louis CVPA shooting - it is critical that such laws not be forbidden.

Every municipality should be free to regulate open carry. The police chief of the City of St. Louis has very publicly condemned the problem of teens legally carrying guns in city neighborhoods. Police cannot stop crime in the City if open carry is permitted there.

Finally, the stand your ground law of Missouri should not be expanded. Persons shooting others can easily claim they feel threatened and law enforcement would not be able to arrest the shooter at the scene. Do not encourage further gun killings by giving shooters a free hand in killing someone by simply claiming they felt threatened.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: TIMOTHY TEVLIN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 6:07 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

HB 2176 (2026) is a reckless, unnecessary, and short sighted bill. Missouri recurrently has one of the highest rates of gun violence in the nation and, unsurprisingly, has some of the weakest gun regulations since our traditional "permit to purchase" laws were allowed to sunset and gun crimes predictably escalated. If legislators truly cared for public safety they would enact reasonable, proven gun safety laws and would stop trying to force lobbyist-favored, dog-whistle amendments that put Missourians more at risk. The red-flag laws HB 2176 targets save lives and keep guns out of the hands of dangerous people. Further, the proposed piecemeal amendments to the stand your ground sections are a mess. The drafters really want to afford the presumption of reasonability to potential murderers? Yet another reckless, senseless proposal that will hurt police, prosecutors, and the community. This bill reads like it was written by a toadstool. Any representative with a shred of common sense and an honest concern for the health and safety of Missourians should oppose HB 2176. Thank you for considering my statement. Please do the right thing.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: V NICOLE DAVID PENNINGTON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 8:51 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am writing in strong opposition to HB 2176.

1. It is an infringement of local control and takes away communities' abilities to address their own safety concerns.
2. Removing red flag protections will remove a critical tool for preventing high-risk individuals, such as domestic violent abusers, from committing violence.
3. Giving presumptive innocence to those who claim they acted in self defense will make it exponentially more difficult to prosecute perpetrators of violent crimes. This bill expands the privileges of a shooter by assuming the shooter is under threat and needs to defend themselves. They have no duty to retreat even when they can safely do so. This puts all people in greater danger and does not make us safer.
4. Lowering the age for concealed carry could lead to greater safety risks.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: VALERIE HALDIMAN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 3:04 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Extreme risk protection, or red flag laws are critical, lifesaving tools that help keep firearms out of the hands of people who are deemed homicidal or suicidal by the courts. Guns are temporarily stored until the crisis is over. If Missouri had had a red flag law the shooting at the Central Visual and Performing Arts High School in St. Louis could have been prevented.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: VICKI BOLGER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 7:43 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am opposed to this bill because it prevents Red Flag laws in our state. We need this kind of law, not forbid it!

Every municipality should have the option to regulate open carry of guns, knowing what is best for its community. This bill prevents regulation of open carry by individual municipalities in Mo.

This is another version of the "Make Murder Legal Act". This is an expansion of "shoot first" or Stand Your Ground (SYG) law. We are a SYG state. This bill expands the privileges of a shooter by assuming the shooter is under threat and needs to defend themselves. They have no duty to retreat even when they can safely do so. This is especially dangerous for people of color who are perceived differently than Caucasians. Law enforcement cannot even arrest a shooter at the scene.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DONNIE OWSLEY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2026 10:51 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Section 563.016 is a narrow declaratory statute declaring a fact of law. It neither creates civil remedies nor impairs them, and repealing it would not alter existing law. Its only purpose is to put the public on notice that when "conduct" may be justified under §§563.021 or 563.026 — and therefore not a criminal offense — that such fact does not mean the same conduct is not a tort or that civil remedies are unavailable. All firearms instructors repeatedly stress that in the real world, you're legally responsible for any unintended harm caused. That includes harm to innocent bystanders, property damage, and anything else that happens as a result of your pulling the trigger.

Subsection 563.031.5 is another matter. It should be repealed because the statute is so ambiguous that it can be—and for nearly 50 years repeatedly has been—applied in ways that violate basic due process rights, the right to a jury trial, and the right to equal protection of the law. This ambiguity has produced a steady stream of cases to the Missouri Supreme Court simply to obtain a basic self-defense instruction in unlawful use of force cases. The Court has had to repeatedly remind trial court judges that defendants must be presumed innocent of the accusation that they used unlawful force until the jury finds that the State has proven the use of unlawful force to them beyond a reasonable doubt, and that juries must be properly instructed on the State's burden to prove that accusation beyond a reasonable doubt and that the jury must be instructed on use of force law. This pattern has been devastating for defendants, enormously costly for taxpayers, a persistent drain on judicial resources, and it increases the State's exposure to civil liability arising from wrongful convictions.

Subsections 2 and 3 of the proposed §563.085—requiring a pretrial immunity ruling and clarifying the burden of proof at such a hearing—would meaningfully improve procedural consistency in immunity hearings under §563.074. However, those procedural provisions belong in §563.074, the statute that already governs immunity, rather than in a new §563.085 that would duplicate and fragment existing law and also violate equal protection of the law.

A brief illustration of committee substitute language that might be helpful. The attached example shows one way the committee could clarify the presumption of innocence, the State's burden to prove unlawfulness, the right to a jury trial on the merits in use of force cases, and the requirement for a pretrial immunity ruling, all while preserving the structure of existing law.

Illustrative Committee Substitute Draft for section 563.031 & 563.085 (563.074)

563.031.5 When the plaintiff alleges that a defendant used unlawful force, the defendant is presumed innocent of that allegation. The plaintiff bears the burden to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant used unlawful force, and the jury shall be properly instructed on the presumption of

innocence, the plaintiff's burden of proof, and the use of force in defense of persons law.

563.031.6. As used in this section: (1) "Unlawful", means without justification under this section or other applicable law; (2) "Use" or "used", means threatening to use, attempting to use, or using physical force; (3) "Physical force", means non-deadly and deadly force.

563.074

A law enforcement agency may use standard procedures for investigating the use or threatened use of force as described in subsection 1 of this section, but the agency shall not arrest the person for using or threatening to use force unless the agency determines that there is probable cause that the force used or threatened was unlawful.

In a criminal prosecution, once a prima facie claim of self-defense immunity has been raised by the defendant on a motion for judgment of immunity, the burden of proving the use of unlawful force by clear and convincing evidence is on the State.

The trial court shall make written findings of fact and conclusions of law and shall rule on the motion for immunity prior to trial on the merits.

As used in this section, the term "unlawful" means without justification under chapter 563 or other applicable law.

Respectfully submitted,

Donnie Owsley
25040 Mackey Rd.
Edwards, MO 65326
donnieowsley@yahoo.com