

Written testimony submitted to the State, Civic, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committee

In opposition to HB23-1044 Second Amendment Preservation Act

Submitted by Rionda Osman, Boulder CO

HB23-1044 Concerning enacting the ‘Second Amendment Preservation Act’, and, in connection therewith, prohibiting enforcement of Federal laws that infringe on the right to bear arms

This bill presents two issues that contradict existing Colorado law and the US Constitution’s Supremacy Clause (Article VI, Paragraph 2). If enacted, this bill would negate most of Colorado’s laws concerning firearms. If enacted, this bill would upset Colorado’s relationship to the Federal government.

This nation and Colorado are grappling with astonishing gun violence. The so-called infringements listed in this bill counter the statutes of Colorado and of some Colorado cities to register and require background checks on purchases and transfers and restrict the presence of firearms in some locations. The Extreme Risk Protection Orders recently passed could also be hamstrung under the guise of preventing the removal of firearms.

The second issue concerns the primacy of Federal laws and the duty of states and all agencies to observe Federal law. Additionally, if this bill were to become law, former Federal employees would not be eligible for employment by the State or by political subdivisions.

The League of Women Voters of Colorado has registered a stance of ‘Strongly Oppose’ toward this bill.

I urge you to reject this bill in the interests of the health and safety of Colorado’s citizens and to preserve the position of Colorado within the federation of states.

Sincerely,

Rionda Osman, 2 February 2023