



📄 Click to copy

RELATED TOPICS

Legislature

Minnesota

Gun politics

Bills

Laws

Minnesota House panel approves gun sale background checks

By STEVE KARNOWSKI February 28, 2019



ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — A Minnesota House committee voted Wednesday night to require universal criminal background

Trending on AP News


Pence abruptly cancels New Hampshire trip

'Are you serious?' Video shows senator's DWI arrest response

England looks to overcome 'ruthless' US

AP

Minnesota House panel ap...

[Top Stories](#)[Topics](#) [Video](#)[Listen](#)

the Legislature took up the contentious issue of gun control for the first time this session.

by Taboola

The House public safety committee approved the bill on a 9-7 vote. The bill next goes to the Ways and Means Committee.

The committee then began considering a bill for a “red flag” law to allow families and police to seek court orders to temporarily confiscate guns from people judged to pose an imminent threat to themselves or others, but didn’t finish before the midnight deadline and put off a vote



Leaders of the new Democratic majority in the House predicted floor approval of both bills, and Democratic Gov. Tim Walz reaffirmed his support in his [budget](#) proposal last week. But Republican Senate Majority Leader Paul Gazelka has vowed to block the legislation.

Illustrating the strong feelings that gun issues evoke, a crowd of more than 300 people packed the hallway



ahead of the event, and many had to watch from an overflow room.

Supporters of the bills wore red T-shirts for the group Moms Demand Action or orange shirts for Protect Minnesota, while opponents wore black shirts from the Minnesota Gun Owners Caucus.

Sa'Lasha Beeks, a Protect Minnesota board member, choked up as she testified how her mother and daughter became innocent bystanders as they waited at a stop sign in Minneapolis in 2016. She said her mother,



her daughter was left traumatized by a man whose gang ties would have turned up in a background check, and would have been stopped from buying the gun that killed her mother while gunning for a rival gang member.

“This bill is not about taking away the rights of law-abiding citizens, it’s about protecting Minnesotans from individuals who should not have the right to purchase or carry firearms,” she said as she held a photo of her mother.

But officials with the Gun Owners



that the background checks bill would cover more than just gun sales, it would also apply to transfers, including certain loans and gifts of guns, though proponents pointed out that the bill contains a list of exceptions.

The opponents said law-abiding owners would risk criminal penalties if they accidentally lose the paperwork.

“The goal that all of us have is, ‘How do we keep firearms out of the hands of dangerous people?’” the group’s chairman, Bryan Strawser, said. “We agree



in this bill ...
doesn't fall on
the criminal
element. The
burden with
this bill falls
upon law-
abiding
citizens.”

While the bills
are high on the
House
Democratic
agenda, it's
not clear if
they'll get
anywhere in
the Senate,
where
Republicans
hold a three-
seat majority
and some rural
Democrats
oppose gun
control.

The [lead](#)
[Senate](#)
[sponsor](#) of the
proposals, St.



Latz, said Tuesday that he's ready to try a procedural maneuver to force a vote if the Senate leadership won't schedule a hearing or floor vote. He said the key will be winning over suburban Republican senators in districts where Democrats captured House seats last November.

It's a coincidence that the hearing came just hours after the Democratic-controlled U.S. House [approved](#) a background checks bill, the first major gun control legislation considered by Congress in nearly 25 years.



Speaker

Melissa

Hortman

credited the

shift in the

political

landscape to

“the relentless

advocacy of

young people”

since 17 people

were shot and

killed last year

at a high

school in

Parkland,

Florida.

“They created

a political

reality where

moving

forward on

gun violence

prevention is

possible in the

Minnesota

House of

Representatives,”

she said.

PAID FOR BY NINJA
JOURNALIST

10 Years After Making



They Now Have A Normal Job

Take a look at how your favorite Hollywood couples started out and whether they managed to stay together or not throughout the years.

Ninja Journalist

Naom
i...

WIMB
LED...

²
days ago

Ad Content

Forg
et
Ro...

Promoted:
Stansberry
Research
Subscription

The



Minnesota House panel ap...

Top Stories

Topics ▾

Video

Listen



Promoted:
Gundry
MD

Thes

e

Ar...

Promoted:
Luxury
Vehicles
|
Search
Ads

Dad

Cuts

Dau...

Promoted:
Articles
Vally

Teen

ump...

DENV

ER ...

²
days ago

Angel

S...

ARLI

NGT...

Yesterda
y

Ad Content

Inside Laura
Ingraham's
Mansion When
The Dead
Giveaway That
Tells You What
She's Really Thinking

|4d5694c3ecf956ca28bf



Minnesota House panel ap...

[Top Stories](#)

[Topics](#) ▾

[Video](#)

[Listen](#)



Suspe
ct in...

SALT
LAK...

¹¹
hours
ago

Grand
jury...

LAS
VEG...

Yesterda
y



Click to copy

AP NEWS

[Top Stories](#)

[Video](#)

[Contact Us](#)

DOWNLOAD AP NEWS

Connect with the definitive source for global and local news



MORE FROM AP

[ap.org](#)

[AP Insights](#)

[AP Definitive Source](#)

[AP Images Spotlight](#)

[AP Explore](#)

[AP Books](#)

FOLLOW AP

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

[About](#) [Contact](#) [Customer Support](#) [Careers](#) [Terms & Conditions](#) [Privacy](#)
All contents © copyright 2019 The Associated Press. All rights reserved.