

Melissa Hortman
State Representative
Minority Leader
District 36B
Anoka
Hennepin



Minnesota House of Representatives

May 19, 2018

Speaker Kurt Daudt
463 State Office Building
100 Rev Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Speaker Daudt:

The purpose of this letter is to express the shared urgency of our Caucus to pass stand-alone legislation for school safety measures immediately, before the final day of the 2018 legislative session. Minnesotans deserve a stand-alone school safety bill that addresses the needs of schools and responds to the voices of students and parents demanding action to keep our children safe.

This legislative session began with the devastating school shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, FL. This legislative session is ending with another horrific tragedy in Santa Fe, TX. The death of these students in Santa Fe marks the 22nd school shooting in 2018.

Members of the DFL House Caucus have tried repeatedly to advance common-sense gun safety legislation, including criminal background checks on all gun purchases and red flag laws that would put extreme risk protection orders in place. Your failure to move these common-sense gun safety measures is extremely disappointing. We want students to be safe at school, but also on their way to school, at the movie theater, the shopping mall, their houses of worship, and everywhere else.

With that said, we hope you will be motivated to move forward on the school safety measures where we have bipartisan agreement and can move quickly.

With our own history of school shootings in Minnesota, it could soon be too late for us to act to stop the next event. Students are begging for us to put politics aside and act *now*, and we are willing to work together on a bipartisan stand-alone proposal today.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Melissa Hortman in black ink.

Melissa Hortman
State Representative – District 36B

Handwritten signature of Jim Davnie in black ink.

Jim Davnie
State Representative – District 63A

