

1 CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER

2 STATE OF COLORADO

3 Judicial Committee Meeting

4 Held on February 18, 2013

5 HOUSE BILL 13-1229

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7 REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT

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10           This transcript was taken from an audio  
11 recording by Elissa Steen, Registered Professional  
12 Reporter and Notary Public.

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## 1 P R O C E E D I N G S

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3 THE CLERK: -- Representatives  
4 Fields and McCann, also Senator Carroll,  
5 concerning criminal background checks  
6 performed pursuant to the transfer of  
7 firearms, in connection there with making an  
8 appropriation.

9 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE: Representative  
10 Fields.

11 REPRESENTATIVE FIELDS: Mr. Speaker,  
12 I move House Bill 1229 on third reading and  
13 final passage.

14 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE: Is there any  
15 discussion?

16 Representative Gardner.

17 REPRESENTATIVE GARDNER: Thank you,  
18 Mr. Speaker.

19 Members, colleagues, by the time we  
20 reach our third reading vote on a bill,  
21 there's seldom, if anything, to be said that  
22 might change any member's vote. That clearly  
23 is the case this morning.

24 And so, as I speak to you, this  
25 principal audience from my remarks are not

1 those of you in this chamber, but rather the  
2 citizens of Colorado, thousands of whom have  
3 communicated with all of us over the past  
4 several days. In fact, more than on any  
5 issue that I have received in seven sessions.  
6 And overwhelmingly those voices have been in  
7 opposition to these bills. And some of these  
8 may -- in fact did -- take me to task for not  
9 having compelled others of you to vote no on  
10 these bills.

11 The e-mails, letters, phone calls  
12 cited various facts and arguments against  
13 this and the other bills.

14 But citizens, Coloradans, as you  
15 watch these votes this morning, you should  
16 understand very clearly, those facts do not  
17 matter. Those arguments have little  
18 persuasive power, because the underlying fact  
19 is that there are, when we face a bill of  
20 this sort and its companions, two basic world  
21 views that are in competition.

22 Now, one could write a whole  
23 doctoral thesis on the differences and the  
24 sociological reasons why one may hold those  
25 world views, but for the moment, suffice it

1 to say, and I will say, as evenly as I  
2 possibly can, that with respect to these  
3 bills, the one view is that greater  
4 government control -- greater government  
5 control of firearms -- will be both  
6 successful and make us safer and more secure,  
7 and that any loss or infringement of rights  
8 or liberty is offset by that security.

9 The other view, held by myself and  
10 others, is that greater gun control will not  
11 promote public safety, but rather make us  
12 less safe, less secure, and most assuredly  
13 less free.

14 Once you subscribe to one view or  
15 the other, facts can be disputed. Competing  
16 facts are easily presented. Arguments made,  
17 arguments dismissed, all based on one's world  
18 view.

19 And perhaps a member of the other  
20 side of the aisle will come to you, even on a  
21 Friday evening late, and say you were very  
22 compelling. And I might say, And it changed  
23 your vote? And the answer would be, Well, of  
24 course not, but you were compelling, because  
25 there are two competing world views on this

1 issue.

2 So people of Colorado, citizens,  
3 there is only one debate and one argument  
4 that has mattered on this bill and its  
5 companions. That debate was done and  
6 complete on November 6, 2012. Now, the facts  
7 do not matter, and the politics are very  
8 simple.

9 Coloradans, I want to speak to you,  
10 each of you, as personally as I can from this  
11 chamber and in this venue. Citizen, if you  
12 voted for one set of candidates on that  
13 election day, you effectively voted to  
14 support these bills --

15 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE:

16 Representative Gardner, can you keep to the  
17 topic of the bills?

18 REPRESENTATIVE GARDNER: Indeed,  
19 Mr. Speaker. And if my argument is too  
20 subtle, I apologize, because this is on the  
21 bills and why these bills are being voted on  
22 as they are and will have the outcome that  
23 they do.

24 Notwithstanding any small numbers of  
25 the majority party that may vote against one

1 or all of these bills, it is the world view  
2 that controls the vote of these bills. One  
3 being that greater control of firearms by  
4 government, and even perhaps in the future  
5 registration of weapons, for which this bill  
6 and the others set this stage, that greater  
7 control, greater public supervision, greater  
8 government supervision, is not only  
9 necessary, but it is the right thing to do  
10 for our citizens. And if you voted  
11 otherwise, then you voted in opposition to  
12 these bills, citizen.

13 But, there were not enough. Not  
14 enough of you, not enough of us here in this  
15 chamber, and not enough, I believe,  
16 understanding of what is at stake here, for  
17 it is nothing less at stake on this bill and  
18 the others than our liberty.

19 Our founders knew that the majority  
20 was not always right. The Bill of Rights was  
21 written and adopted to prevent the tyranny of  
22 the majority. And the Second Amendment, no  
23 less than the First or the Fourth or the  
24 Fifth, was adopted to protect the safety and  
25 security of those who find themselves in the

1 minority of opinion.

2           This bill and the others are no less  
3 a part of that greater debate, that battle  
4 between those competing world views. This  
5 right is no less than the right of free  
6 speech, or the right of privacy in one's  
7 home, or the safety and security of one's  
8 person and effects.

9           It is the question of the power of  
10 government versus the power -- the  
11 individual. And I know not what end, if any,  
12 that larger debate may reach, as it seems to  
13 be so stark in our country today.

14           I know that however well-intentioned  
15 -- I do indeed believe that the sponsor and  
16 those voting for this bill are  
17 well-intentioned -- but no matter how  
18 well-intentioned, this bill is an  
19 infringement. A court may call it a  
20 reasonable infringement. A court may call it  
21 a necessary infringement. A court -- and  
22 courts can be wrong, as you well know -- may  
23 say that it's an infringement that can be  
24 done, but it is, nevertheless, an  
25 infringement, and it will bring less safety,

1 less security, and surely less freedom.

2 And so to our colleagues in the  
3 Senate who have yet to hear this bill, I  
4 would ask you to consider what is at stake.

5 And to our Governor, who has  
6 recognized that such bills may well bring  
7 little, if any, public safety, I ask you to  
8 consider the infringement and our safety and  
9 our security that will be lost by that  
10 infringement.

11 And, to my fellow citizens and  
12 Coloradans, no matter the outcome, I ask you  
13 to consider in the next and ultimate battle,  
14 whether to stand with liberty and to know  
15 that when you do so, you stand with our  
16 founders for the rights that they understood  
17 so clearly and fought for so dearly. For  
18 this bill, and each like it, places liberty  
19 in opposition to the power of the state, and  
20 that is what, in the larger sense, this bill  
21 brings to us, the decision that we make  
22 today, as we do something, do something, for  
23 liberty.

24 Thank you.

25 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE: Representative



1 McCann.

2 REPRESENTATIVE McCANN: Thank you,  
3 Mr. Speaker.

4 This bill is really about a level  
5 playing field for everyone who wants to  
6 purchase a gun in Colorado. We already  
7 require background checks. And the reason we  
8 do that is because we don't want people who  
9 have felony convictions, who have domestic  
10 violence convictions, who have restraining  
11 orders against them to purchase guns here in  
12 our state of Colorado. And this is a public  
13 safety issue.

14 So -- and we know people do fail the  
15 background checks. Just in January we had  
16 56,000 background checks run here in  
17 Colorado. Of that amount, almost a thousand  
18 were denied. So background checks do prevent  
19 people who shouldn't have guns from buying  
20 guns.

21 All this bill is doing is saying, we  
22 are not going to let someone who fails a  
23 background check through a licensed firearm  
24 dealer go a different route because they  
25 can't legally possess a firearm. We're not

1 going to let them go on the Internet and buy  
2 a gun from someone out of state, from someone  
3 in state. We're not going to let them buy  
4 from a private seller. Because the whole  
5 point of the bill -- the whole point of  
6 background checks -- is to prevent people who  
7 shouldn't have guns from having them.

8           And that's an argument that we have  
9 heard from several of you today, about why  
10 don't we do something about keeping people  
11 from getting guns who shouldn't have guns.  
12 Well, that's what this bill does. This bill  
13 says, if you have the things that are already  
14 in our law that say you should not possess a  
15 gun, then you should not be able to buy a gun  
16 here in Colorado.

17           During the debate on Friday, I went  
18 through some of the situations where there  
19 have been shootings by people who would not  
20 have passed a background check under our --  
21 the background check requirements here in  
22 Colorado. I won't go through those again,  
23 but, suffice it to say, there are several.

24           Many of these mass shootings, where  
25 people who would not have passed a background

1 check under this law in Colorado, were able  
2 to -- to obtain guns and use them for  
3 horrific crimes.

4 And the other thing that really  
5 concerns me a lot, having worked with  
6 domestic violence victims, is access to guns  
7 by those who have restraining orders or those  
8 who've been involved in domestic violence.

9 And we know that people who get into  
10 emotional situations in domestic violence  
11 situations often end up using a weapon  
12 against their -- their loved one, their  
13 partner, their spouse, and then often against  
14 themselves as well. These are people who  
15 should not have access to weapons here in  
16 Colorado.

17 As I mentioned before, 13 women were  
18 murdered last year by those who had been in  
19 relationships with them, even though they had  
20 restraining orders.

21 What this bill will do is say to  
22 those people you cannot purchase a weapon if  
23 you have a restraining order against you or  
24 if you have a domestic violence conviction.

25 It's a very, very sad situation for

1 people who are living in fear every day from  
2 someone that they have been in a relationship  
3 with, and this bill will increase their  
4 safety.

5 As I mentioned previously, I  
6 find I -- I don't really understand the  
7 objection to this bill because those of you  
8 who have purchased your guns legally went  
9 through a background check. I don't  
10 understand why you wouldn't want everyone to  
11 have to go through a background check just  
12 like you did so that we don't have people  
13 getting these weapons who should not possess  
14 them.

15 So I would ask for a yes vote on  
16 this bill. It clearly is a matter of public  
17 safety. It clearly will make our state safer  
18 and will result in less death and less  
19 suicide by gun here in our state of Colorado.

20 Thank you.

21 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE: Representative  
22 Gerou.

23 REPRESENTATIVE GEROU: Thank you,  
24 Mr. Speaker.

25 And I think we're all pretty clear

1 about you're either one way or you're --  
2 you're the other way on this bill and all the  
3 bills probably today. I don't think anybody  
4 is sitting on the fence. And -- and I'm  
5 not -- I'm not going to assume that -- that I  
6 can change a mind today, but I would like to  
7 address what this bill means to me  
8 personally.

9 Representative McCann just told us  
10 that what the bill does is it creates a level  
11 playing field. And with all due respect, it  
12 does not. What it does is it completely  
13 changes the playing field.

14 During the course of our debate on  
15 the bill on Friday, I mentioned the fact that  
16 I had received firearms from my uncle when he  
17 passed away. And -- and I was concerned  
18 because had this bill been in effect when my  
19 uncle passed away, I would not have been able  
20 to receive those firearms without going for a  
21 background check. And a lot of people might  
22 say, who cares? I mean, so it's a background  
23 check. If you've got nothing to hide, you've  
24 got nothing to be worried about.

25 I bring up again the supposition of

1 this bill is that you are guilty until proven  
2 innocent. And that's not what we do in this  
3 country. That's not the way we live. That's  
4 not the way we were raised.

5 I think you've heard me say before  
6 in the past that I'm -- I'm from Wyoming. I  
7 grew up in a ranching family. I grew up with  
8 four brothers. I have two brothers that are  
9 surviving. One of my brothers that I lost  
10 about -- oh gosh, I think it's probably been  
11 about seven years ago -- has two sons. And  
12 it's very important to my sister-in-law,  
13 their mother, that they not lose their ties  
14 to our family.

15 My parents have set up a trust such  
16 that when they're gone, the family ranch is  
17 split evenly among the children, those  
18 surviving and those not, which is pretty  
19 incredible because in Wyoming girls don't  
20 normally inherit.

21 I mean, there's a reason why I am so  
22 stubborn, crusty and definite about  
23 everything. If you grew up with my four  
24 brothers, you'd be the same way I am. You  
25 might be worse. But I'm also grateful for

1 that background because what it does is it  
2 helps me come down here and make decisions.  
3 Sometimes I'm on this side of the aisle;  
4 sometimes I'm on that side of the aisle.

5 But as Representative Vigil so  
6 eloquently put it, I believe in the same  
7 thing he does: Vote your conscience, vote  
8 your district, vote your party. And by the  
9 time I get through those first two, I really  
10 have a hard time deciding. The third, the  
11 party, is usually one of the last things that  
12 I look at.

13 So let's talk about what this bill  
14 will do. What this bill will do is -- I am  
15 struggling because I have multiple firearms  
16 that my uncle gave to me. My uncle gave them  
17 to one child out of five. And I have a --  
18 two nephews: Chris is a senior -- well,  
19 he's -- he's in his last year of -- he's  
20 getting his doctorate in neuroscience  
21 engineering, and he's at Berkeley.

22 It's really important to Chris to  
23 maintain his -- his connections to Wyoming.  
24 It really is. I mean, he doesn't live there.  
25 He hasn't lived there. He grew up in

1 Colorado until they moved to Kentucky. He  
2 hasn't been in Wyoming at all, but that --  
3 that heritage -- that heritage is important.

4 So if I make a transfer of the guns,  
5 I can't do it in Colorado. He was born in  
6 this state. I can't do it in Colorado  
7 without a background check. What kind of a  
8 message am I sending to my nephew? I love  
9 you. I miss your father. He was my -- my  
10 best friend. But you can't have anything  
11 that has to do with the heritage of the men  
12 in your family that has to do with a firearm  
13 unless you go through a background check.  
14 That's what I'm telling him.

15 His younger brother, Peter, all  
16 Peter wants to do is finish college and teach  
17 high school. Same thing, what am I telling  
18 him? And you might think, oh, well, she's  
19 just whining, this is just family. But you  
20 know what? This is family. This is our  
21 heritage.

22 And I know I'm not going to change  
23 your minds, but what I would like you to  
24 remember is that when you vote yes on this  
25 bill, you're killing a part of the heritage



1 of our state, and you're killing part of the  
2 liberties of our state.

3 Thank you.

4 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE: Representative  
5 Stephens.

6 REPRESENTATIVE STEPHENS: Thank you,  
7 Mr. Speaker.

8 Members, this bill and its companion  
9 bill, as I think in our second reading  
10 debates and now today, we kept talking about  
11 what does this really do?

12 I understand Representative McCann's  
13 concern and certainly understand that through  
14 this people that would -- that have domestic  
15 violence records are now on some level -- the  
16 belief is that they be identified; however,  
17 I'm of the belief that -- and we have seen  
18 that when evil's intent on doing evil, evil  
19 wins.

20 But what concerns me most -- and I  
21 know some have said, Well, this creates a gun  
22 registry, that this can move on to something  
23 far beyond what we thought, and, you know,  
24 normally I might say not so sure about that.

25 But, you know, I brought up this

1 fiscal note, and I'm going to bring it up  
2 again because this fiscal talks about 24  
3 people to 29 people, and then we move on to  
4 the part that -- that really wasn't  
5 announced, and that's 56 more people on top  
6 of those 24 and 29 people, for a supposed  
7 system update.

8           Folks, we don't -- we don't have  
9 50-something people even right now doing  
10 background checks. If this doesn't concern  
11 you, I don't know what will. I -- I -- so  
12 now we'll be at somewhere between 70- to  
13 80-something people.

14           And -- and because this wasn't  
15 brought out in the front part of the fiscal,  
16 it says, well, he might ask for it at budget  
17 time. We'll -- we'll ask for it at budget  
18 time later. The reason this is brought up is  
19 because it will be. It will be. Mark my  
20 words. I've seen this one too many times,  
21 that this absolutely will be brought up.

22           Why? 79-80 people? Do we have that  
23 many transfers? I mean, do we have that many  
24 things that will be going on to close the  
25 loophole that we're going to require that

1 many people?

2           Folks, I have a very big concern  
3 about this and about where it goes. And in  
4 other states that -- that look and talk about  
5 this, I just have to say, you know, I know  
6 we're at the front edge of this, and I -- I  
7 understand that.

8           And I think what's happening today  
9 is historic, and I think we should be very  
10 somber about it. I think we should be very  
11 somber about this and very somber about the  
12 other things, the other bills coming up  
13 before us.

14           But I have to say, if this isn't  
15 registry and we are not doing what we should  
16 do in a very quick manner -- I know we have  
17 some backups here, but not for  
18 80-something-plus people. We're creating new  
19 departments in and of themselves, and that to  
20 me is a pause for concern.

21           So with that, I do not support House  
22 Bill 1229 or any of the other four bills.

23           Thank you.

24           SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE: Representative  
25 DelGrosso.

1           REPRESENTATIVE DELGROSSO: Thank  
2 you, Mr. Speaker.

3           And Representative Stephens took a  
4 little bit of my thunder, but I will try to  
5 expand on what she was trying to hint at and  
6 the fact that we brought this up the other  
7 day on second reading, and we still never  
8 heard how is this bill going to be enforced.

9           You can enforce the up-front gun  
10 registration, when I go into the local dealer  
11 or if I go to the gun -- gun -- to the gun  
12 show. But you know who owns the weapon at  
13 that point, and so you can say we're  
14 transferring that.

15           But if there's two guys out in the  
16 woods, they're hunting, and Representative  
17 Gerou has one of the guns that she inherited  
18 from her uncle and she's out there with us  
19 too and she shows me this awesome gun that  
20 she inherited, and I was like, you know,  
21 Representative Gerou, I'd really love to have  
22 that. And somehow, whether through a trade  
23 or a purchase or whatever it is, I acquire  
24 that weapon, but there is no -- nothing out  
25 there that shows that she owns those weapons.

1 And when I take possession of that, that I  
2 own the weapon.

3 And so there is -- the only way this  
4 bill can be enforced is through a registry.  
5 You have to know who owns the weapon to be  
6 able to get this fiscal note to know who's  
7 breaking the law and who's transferred a  
8 weapon from one person to the other.

9 So let's not kid ourselves when we  
10 think that this is only black helicopter  
11 stuff, that that's a registry. That's the  
12 only way this bill can be enforced.

13 I urge a no vote on House Bill 1229.

14 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE: Representative  
15 Lawrence.

16 REPRESENTATIVE LAWRENCE: Thank you,  
17 Mr. Speaker.

18 I rise in opposition to this bill  
19 for numerous reasons really. I have some  
20 information in front of me. There was a CDC  
21 panel review, 51 studies regarding the  
22 effectiveness of gun control laws. Based on  
23 that review, they could not say that gun laws  
24 prevented a single crime.

25 The survey included, among other

1 issues, studies of the effectiveness of gun  
2 and ammunition bans, licensing and  
3 registration laws, child access laws, and  
4 waiting periods.

5           There was some slight evidence that  
6 a waiting period to purchase a firearm may  
7 reduce gun suicide rate in older persons,  
8 while not affecting the overall suicide rate.

9           And again, I have to go back to what  
10 Representative Stephens and Representative  
11 DelGrosso brought up. If this is not gun  
12 registration, how is a transfer of arms going  
13 to be verified?

14           The CBI has stated that once you go  
15 through a background check, that information,  
16 once you are approved for that sale, that  
17 information is deleted from their database in  
18 24 hours. So if you're stopped by a police  
19 officer and you say, I have a weapon in the  
20 car, how is he going to be able to check to  
21 see whether you went through a background  
22 check unless this is registration?

23           And I've been told over and over  
24 again by the sponsors that's not what it is,  
25 but I also just heard from Representative

1 Fields that these are all incremental steps,  
2 and we're not done with this yet. That  
3 certainly gives me pause on all four of these  
4 bills.

5 There are issues in this bill that  
6 are just unclear and unenforceable.

7 The transfer of a family item from  
8 one generation to the next. This bill only  
9 allows for a direct transfer to direct family  
10 members. Well, what about blended families,  
11 aunts and uncles, cousins, nephews? I think  
12 it's unreasonable to ask a member of my  
13 family to go through a background check to be  
14 given something that was owned by a member of  
15 their own family.

16 But ultimately this law is  
17 unenforceable. If, as Director Sloan of the  
18 CBI stated several times, background check  
19 information is deleted after 24 hours, this  
20 law is unenforceable, and it is just a bad  
21 law. We don't need to add layer upon layer  
22 of things that are unenforceable in this  
23 state.

24 I urge a no vote on this bill.

25 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE: Representative

1 Saine?

2 Representative Holbert.

3 REPRESENTATIVE HOLBERT: Thank you,  
4 Mr. Speaker.

5 Members, I rise in opposition to  
6 House Bill 1229.

7 As Representative Stephens and  
8 Representative Lawrence have both accurately  
9 pointed out, this system cannot work without  
10 some future move towards registration. You  
11 cannot account for these objects -- rifles,  
12 handguns. You can't account for them unless  
13 you have some registration database.

14 And I believe Representative  
15 Stephens is absolutely right, to have that  
16 many people coming online, that many  
17 full-time equivalents into our state payroll,  
18 there's got to be something bigger. Maybe we  
19 haven't seen all the bills. Maybe that's yet  
20 to come this -- this session. I -- I don't  
21 know. Maybe that's some time off in the  
22 future, but this is designed obsolescence.  
23 This is designed failure. This bill can't  
24 work.

25 It troubles me that sometimes I --



1 I'm left with the impression that people who  
2 have never purchased a gun, never gone  
3 through that background check, are attempting  
4 to regulate and modify that process.

5 This process, if this bill becomes  
6 law, could provide greater protection for  
7 firearms dealers because they keep the  
8 documentation. But if you've ever purchased  
9 a firearm, I would be shocked to know that  
10 you actually have a copy of that form that  
11 you fill out or any sort of receipt that  
12 shows that you actually passed that  
13 background check, because it's not for your  
14 security, it's not for the purchaser's  
15 security, it's for the firearms dealer, that  
16 they cannot conduct this transaction without  
17 going through that background check.

18 So now two private citizens will  
19 walk into a firearms dealer, and we had the  
20 conversation on second reading as to whether  
21 the firearms dealer would be required to  
22 provide this service, and we were assured no,  
23 but again, an amendment to clarify that was  
24 defeated.

25 But that firearms dealer doesn't

1 give the purchaser or the seller  
2 documentation to show that that transaction  
3 was conducted legally. The firearms dealer  
4 maintains that documentation for him or  
5 herself, for their own protection. So it's  
6 been pointed out over and over again, if  
7 you're driving down the street with a firearm  
8 in your car, which, by the way, in Colorado  
9 is legal, now it may not be unless you can  
10 prove how you came into possession of that  
11 firearm, and you can't without registration.

12 How can you tell where that handgun  
13 with that serial number came from? If you  
14 can show that you bought a particular model  
15 handgun, how can you prove that it's that  
16 one?

17 You can't. It is impossible. And  
18 given that impossibility, it is clear that  
19 this bill is either totally misguided and the  
20 people do not understand what they're doing,  
21 or it's completely intentional, and it leads  
22 to registration. That's not -- that's not  
23 black helicopters, as was mentioned earlier,  
24 that's blatantly obvious. And the people of  
25 Colorado know it.

1           Look at the e-mails that you've  
2       received. Listen to those phone messages.  
3       The voters understand what we're doing here.

4           And I ask for a no vote on 1229.

5           SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE: Representative  
6       Kagan.

7           REPRESENTATIVE KAGAN: Thank you,  
8       Mr. Speaker.

9           I ask, members, is there no middle  
10      ground? Is there nothing in the area of  
11      public safety on which we can agree, not even  
12      these modest steps? I suggest there is. I  
13      suggest there should be.

14          This bill asks that when people  
15      transfer a firearm, they should be careful.  
16      They should do it with care. They should  
17      know to whom they are giving a gun. And this  
18      bill suggests is that we will all look out  
19      for each other.

20          That is a modest step on which I  
21      would have hoped that we could agree, because  
22      I think there should be a middle ground, and  
23      a middle ground is this: Let's look out for  
24      each other and make sure that we're all  
25      careful for the good of all of us when we

1 transfer a firearm. Let's make sure that we  
2 do not give firearms, sell firearms, transfer  
3 firearms to people who none of us want to  
4 have them. Let's cover for each other.  
5 Let's work together. Let's stand together.

6 And for that reason, let's vote yes  
7 on House Bill 1229.

8 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE: Representative  
9 Saine.

10 REPRESENTATIVE SAINE: Thank you,  
11 Mr. Chair.

12 Esteemed colleagues, I stand before  
13 you today in opposition of this bill because  
14 I do not believe this bill will prevent  
15 criminals from buying guns. It will just  
16 keep criminals from buying them from a  
17 certain avenue.

18 Sponsor, Representative McCann, said  
19 that she didn't understand the objections to  
20 bill. So let me see if I can explain.

21 CBI has been criticized for the  
22 length of time it takes over a federal  
23 background check. I'll explain a little bit  
24 more on that in just a moment.

25 But I want to express that I know

1 that if you hear a thousand negative stories  
2 about something, it's hard to change your  
3 paradigm.

4 There's been a lot of hypotheticals  
5 here as far as what could happen in a certain  
6 scenario without a background check. So  
7 allow me to run a few nonhypotheticals past  
8 you.

9 For example, in Clearwater, Florida,  
10 at 1:05 in the morning, a man started banging  
11 on a patio door, beat on the family's truck,  
12 and then opened that patio door. And after  
13 numerous shouted warnings to stop, to stop, a  
14 single -- a 16-year-old boy fired a single  
15 rifle shot, wounding the attacker.

16 Columbia, South Carolina, two gas  
17 station employees had just left work after  
18 midnight, and two men attempted to rob them,  
19 beating them about the head and neck with a  
20 shovel handle. The male employee broke away  
21 long enough to draw a handgun from his pocket  
22 and shoot his attacker.

23 Detroit, Michigan, a mentally  
24 disturbed man yelled that the President was  
25 going to have him killed and started firing

1 at people in passing cars. A man at the  
2 scene had a permit to carry a concealed  
3 handgun and fired shots that forced the  
4 attacker to run away.

5 I'll give you just a couple more.

6 What if you had an ex-boyfriend or  
7 abusive spouse that broke in your door? What  
8 do you expect those women to do while they're  
9 waiting on a background check? Throw a  
10 kitchen knife? Throw a shoe?

11 Well, let me tell you about what  
12 happened in Columbia Falls, Montana. This  
13 indeed happened. An ex-boyfriend broke into  
14 a woman's home to sexually assault her. She  
15 got away long enough to get her pistol and  
16 hold her attacker at gunpoint until the  
17 police arrived.

18 There are 40 such stories, where  
19 folks used handguns or guns or rifles  
20 defensively, 40 of these stories in a  
21 two-week period.

22 The two-week period was between  
23 March 11-17 of 2001, and July 22-28, 2001.

24 It may shock you to know that guns  
25 are actually used 1.5 to 3.4 million times a

1 year, defensively used. So why don't we hear  
2 about this more often? You don't seem to  
3 hear about these stories because probably  
4 nothing, you know, nothing bad happened or  
5 something bad or worse was avoided.

6           There are many surveys where people  
7 are asked if they were victims of a gun  
8 incident. Often that survey is a little bit  
9 skewed because they're not going to answer  
10 that they were victims, some of these folks.  
11 They're not going to answer that they're  
12 victims of a crime because simply they  
13 weren't because they had a gun to defend  
14 themselves and quickly.

15           Background checks would not have  
16 stopped the killers at Newtown. There were  
17 three instances the week that Newtown  
18 happened. We had Newtown, we had a shooting  
19 in the Clackamas Mall in Washington State,  
20 and we had a theater shooting down in San  
21 Antonio.

22           Consider, again, folks, that we know  
23 the killers intend to die at the scene.  
24 Consider that when equal force showed up, the  
25 shooting stopped. Either a concealed-carry

1     weapon holder showed up, pointed his weapon,  
2     and the shooter took his own life, or the  
3     police showed and shot the shooter. Killers  
4     are cowards. They're stopped only when equal  
5     force shows up or the threat of equal force  
6     shows up.

7             And criminals agree that they prefer  
8     unarmed victims. And this background check  
9     on transfers is certain to create more  
10    victims.

11            Consider this: The wait time for a  
12    background check of a woman seeking to  
13    protect herself against an abusive partner;  
14    an employee who switched to evening shift  
15    suddenly and finds himself in a dangerous  
16    situation, how long shall they wait? How  
17    long shall these women wait?

18            Or a college student who decides  
19    they need to take night classes, and they  
20    have to walk on campus alone, there's no call  
21    boxes. How long shall they wait? How long  
22    should they wait to defend themselves when we  
23    know that only the law-abiding will abide  
24    with these gun laws? Criminals will never,  
25    ever abide by these gun laws. They will not



1 be caught by background checks, and if they  
2 are, they'll just simply buy them someplace  
3 else.

4 I urge a no vote, colleagues. I  
5 urge a no vote on this bill. Don't let them  
6 wait. Don't let them wait.

7 Thank you.

8 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE: Representative  
9 Wilson.

10 REPRESENTATIVE WILSON: Thank you,  
11 Mr. Speaker.

12 It's an interesting situation I find  
13 myself in. Because of my age, I'm one of the  
14 more senior members here on the floor, but  
15 because of my experience, I'm a newbie. So  
16 it's a rather unique experience.

17 In the short time I've been here,  
18 there's three things that I've learned, and I  
19 think they are important things to consider  
20 as we talk about these bills.

21 Number one, I'm amazed at the  
22 collective wisdom of this body. It's -- it's  
23 truly humbling and -- and an honor to serve  
24 with you. It's just amazing to me the -- the  
25 collective wisdom that's -- that's here.

1           I've also been amazed that both  
2 sides tend to dig in their heels, and I must  
3 have missed that part in anatomy class in  
4 college, where it said when you dig in your  
5 heels, it automatically shuts off your  
6 hearing because I've noticed that,  
7 unfortunately, these impassioned speeches  
8 that we make up here oftentimes fall on deaf  
9 ears, and that's a shame.

10           For example, Representative Fields,  
11 I passionately believe in the same things  
12 that you do, and I -- I fully understand what  
13 you're -- what you're working on and what  
14 you're trying to do. I also passionately  
15 disagree with how you're trying to do it.

16           But that's the way it is, and that's  
17 why I think we need to listen to both groups  
18 and try to find that common ground, because  
19 that's what's going to make the difference.

20           The third thing I've learned is that  
21 our best-intentioned legislation that we are  
22 passing or trying to pass in this body,  
23 oftentimes, the unintentioned (sic)  
24 consequences make it bad legislation. And  
25 I've had some of my bill ideas fall prey to

1 that, essentially because my best intentions  
2 didn't work out that well.

3 1229, 1229. It's not bad  
4 legislation in its intent, but the  
5 enforcement of 1229 makes it bad legislation  
6 in its function.

7 This last Friday evening I asked one  
8 of the bill's cosponsors, Representative  
9 McCann, if I were stopped by law enforcement,  
10 how would I prove that the weapons in my  
11 backseat were owned legally before this  
12 legislation went through?

13 The first response was, You'll have  
14 a background check. No, I won't, because I  
15 owned these weapons before this went into  
16 effect, and part of them were passed down.  
17 The second answer, Well, you'll have a  
18 receipt. No, I won't, because my parents are  
19 dead, my grandparents are dead, and some of  
20 those weapons that I now possess were  
21 acquired 10, 20, even 30 years ago. Third  
22 answer, then the police will decide.

23 That's when the lights went off.  
24 The police would decide my guilt or  
25 innocence. Am I really innocent until proven

1 guilty? You see, we've been talking about  
2 infringement on Second Amendment rights, I  
3 think this is larger than that.

4 That tramples, ladies and gentlemen,  
5 on my fundamental right to be innocent until  
6 proven guilty. It should not be on my  
7 shoulders to prove my innocence in that  
8 situation.

9 In fact, in one of the other bills  
10 during that debate in front of our committee,  
11 the statement was made, you should be happy  
12 to prove your innocence. No, I am happy that  
13 I am innocent until proven guilty. In this  
14 country that assumes that right, ladies and  
15 gentlemen, the fact remains, even the most  
16 heinous of crimes, they are presumed innocent  
17 until proven guilty. That famous word,  
18 alleged, that we hear on the news channels  
19 each and every day.

20 Colleagues, this bill presents a  
21 quagmire of presumed guilt. A quagmire of  
22 presumed guilt. I find it unbelievable that  
23 we would even consider a bill that would open  
24 myself and the law-abiding citizens of  
25 Colorado to the assumption of guilt in any

1 degree.

2 I urge a no vote on 1229.

3 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE: Madame  
4 Majority Leader.

5 REPRESENTATIVE HULLINGHORST: Thank  
6 you, Mr. Speaker.

7 I stand in support of this bill, and  
8 I thank the sponsors for bringing it. It is  
9 a very reasonable bill. It's a bill that  
10 protects public safety.

11 There are all kinds of facts and  
12 figures that show that that happens with the  
13 current legislation about background checks,  
14 the current law that we all abide by in this  
15 state.

16 This is a -- an expansion of that.  
17 This closes a loophole. This will keep us  
18 safer. And I hear from my constituents that  
19 they think that this is a very good approach.  
20 It's a very important approach that we should  
21 pursue. That's why I support it so strongly.  
22 This will keep people safer.

23 I resent the implication that unless  
24 we all arm ourselves, we will not be  
25 adequately protected. I hope that there are

1 people that really don't believe that. I  
2 certainly don't believe that. I resent the  
3 implication that I should arm myself to  
4 protect myself.

5 Now, I know some of you think I'm  
6 slightly petite and small, but I feel like I  
7 can protect myself pretty well. But guess  
8 what? What the chips are down, I want to be  
9 able to rely on a good government. I want to  
10 be able to rely on the law enforcement people  
11 that we rely on and that we hire as a  
12 government and a people to protect us.

13 There are situations where I cannot  
14 protect myself, and I will not pretend that  
15 buying a gun will solve that problem. But I  
16 do want to know that we do things here that  
17 make us safer, and this bill will make me  
18 feel safer because I know that we will  
19 prevent additional people who should not own  
20 guns from having guns.

21 The people in this state want us to  
22 do this. I believe it's the right thing to  
23 do, and I ask for a yes vote.

24 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE: Representative  
25 Murray.

1           REPRESENTATIVE MURRAY: Thank you,  
2 Mr. Speaker.

3           In addition to many of the arguments  
4 that have been brought in opposition to this  
5 bill, I would like to add my questioning  
6 of -- of the procedures that have been set  
7 up.

8           Basically we are asking people who  
9 are not selling the product that they're  
10 having to perform a background check for, for  
11 \$10, to perform a government function.

12           If any of you've been in a  
13 mom-and-pop gun shop on a weekend, it's a  
14 very busy place, and people are looking at  
15 guns, you know, and so they generally have  
16 employees that are -- are helping customers.  
17 And I'm just picturing a line of people out  
18 the door that -- that have just, you know,  
19 been willed a gun or have privately bought  
20 and sold a gun, and literally lined up at the  
21 door, you know, getting impatient like at the  
22 post office, why aren't these people helping  
23 me to get my background check for this  
24 transaction?

25           That's not a reasonable expectation

1 of government to have of a retail operation.

2 So I would say that, you know,  
3 when -- when this procedure was structured,  
4 it should have been through government, if  
5 that's government's desire, rather than  
6 forcing it upon retailers for a \$10 fee, for  
7 Pete's sake. They're going to have to hire  
8 additional employees to effect this bill.

9 And so I think what we'll see next  
10 is, they'll be coming to us saying we need  
11 more money for this. Well, so then we're  
12 charging more for a Second Amendment right  
13 that we shouldn't be charging anything for.

14 So I -- I take to heart  
15 Representative Fields' comments that this is  
16 just a first of many bills, or this group is  
17 a first of many bills. And it saddens my  
18 heart, because, you know, what we're seeing  
19 is the beginning of the end of some freedoms  
20 that we've always enjoyed here in the West.

21 And I urge -- I urge a no vote on  
22 this bill.

23 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE: Representative  
24 Salazar.

25 REPRESENTATIVE SALAZAR: Thank you,



1 Mr. Speaker.

2           So I spoke here in the well on  
3 Friday, and I said that I had some concerns  
4 about this bill. I thought that this bill  
5 didn't take into consideration, I think what  
6 Representative Lawrence had indicated,  
7 blended families. I certainly didn't feel  
8 that the definition of immediate family in  
9 this bill took into consideration how Latino  
10 families are.

11           I have a cousin who is raised with  
12 us, and I call him my brother, I don't even  
13 call him my cousin. And he's younger than  
14 me, so he's my little brother, even though  
15 he's much larger than I am. And I was  
16 concerned that I wouldn't be able to -- to  
17 just give him my guns if I so decided to do  
18 so.

19           But I had some -- I had dinner with  
20 him last night, and I said, man, I said this  
21 bill is just killing me because it just  
22 doesn't take into consideration some factors,  
23 particularly when it comes to family.

24           And he looked at me, and he goes,  
25 Dang Brother, I've already passed one

1 background check, I can always pass another  
2 one. Why do I care?

3 And I just looked at him, and I was  
4 like, Well, yes, but it's the imposition of  
5 it all.

6 And he says, Well, when you go  
7 purchase a weapon, that's already there. If  
8 you're going to give me the gun, I'm fine to  
9 go through another background check. And I  
10 said, Are you sure about that? He said,  
11 Yeah. What's the problem?

12 And that clarified an awful lot of  
13 things for me. And that's why I'm going to  
14 urge a yes vote on this bill. Because, as I  
15 indicated during our Judiciary Committee  
16 meeting, I wanted to see this bill move  
17 forward, and I wanted to see this bill move  
18 forward because, if it takes one tool away  
19 from a criminal in being able to purchase a  
20 weapon from a private seller, then that's  
21 what we should be doing.

22 I have to agree with Representative  
23 Kagan, I really don't see what's wrong with  
24 this bill. There's nothing wrong with it at  
25 all.

1           So I urge a yes vote.

2           SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE: Representative  
3 Szabo.

4           REPRESENTATIVE SZABO: Thank you,  
5 Mr. Speaker.

6           And to acknowledge Representative  
7 Hullinghorst, I am small in stature also.  
8 And I am standing up.

9           But you know what? Maybe I don't  
10 have the confidence of Representative  
11 Hullinghorst. If a 200-pound, six-four man  
12 comes after me, I want equal force. That's  
13 all I want. I don't want more force. I want  
14 equal force to know that I have a chance to  
15 become a grandmother, to play with my  
16 grandchildren whenever they come.

17           I don't want to have to choose  
18 whether I walk in the streets, go about my  
19 community alone. I don't want to have to be  
20 fearful if I choose not to be. I want every  
21 tool that would be at my disposal.

22           I believe that this bill gives  
23 empowerment to the criminals.

24           Representative Kagan mentioned  
25 common ground. Common ground is equal force.

1 It's not someone being stronger or bigger  
2 than you.

3 So many of the bills we bring here  
4 highlight the criminal's rights. And there  
5 are two opinions on that. The question is:  
6 Who am -- who are we obligated to protect,  
7 our children, our law-abiding citizens, or  
8 the criminal?

9 Thank you for your time.

10 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE: Representative  
11 Schafer.

12 REPRESENTATIVE SCHAFFER: Thank you,  
13 Mr. Speaker.

14 Members, I want to make a general  
15 comment about all these bills. And that's a  
16 comment I've heard many times, that there's  
17 nothing we can do, we can't prevent gun  
18 violence.

19 If you would think back about 30  
20 years ago, do you remember when we said  
21 there's nothing we can do about sexual  
22 assault. People are just going to get raped,  
23 harassed? Do you remember when we said  
24 there's nothing we can do about drunk  
25 driving? People have a right to drive, they

1 have a right to drink? How about there's  
2 nothing we can do about smoking? There's  
3 nothing we can do today about gun violence,  
4 right?

5 Well, I urge you to think back on  
6 what we have done over the last 30 years for  
7 dangerous, violent practices that were  
8 killing millions of people, shattering the  
9 lives of their families, and costing the  
10 government millions of dollars.

11 I refuse to stand here or to sit  
12 here and vote for doing nothing.

13 Will these things we vote for  
14 eliminate gun violence? Of course not. The  
15 previous bills we've passed did not eliminate  
16 rape, sexual harassment, smoking, drunk  
17 driving. Did they significantly reduce these  
18 dangerous, violent practices against us,  
19 against our family members, against our  
20 citizens? They certainly did.

21 And, therefore, I ask for your  
22 support on this bill, 1229, and the other  
23 bills.

24 Thank you.

25 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE: Representative

1 Saine.

2 REPRESENTATIVE SAINE: Colleagues,  
3 we've heard there's nothing we can do about  
4 gun violence. Well, I think there is  
5 something we can do. We can sure -- make  
6 sure that more law-abiding citizens have guns  
7 to protect themselves.

8 Consider the Aurora Theater  
9 shooting. There -- there would have been  
10 numerous theaters around the Aurora Theater  
11 that was chosen, but the killer didn't go to  
12 the one that was the largest theater. He  
13 didn't go to the closest theater. He had to  
14 drive past several theaters, in fact, the one  
15 that advertises itself as being the largest  
16 theater in Colorado. He went to the only one  
17 that had a sign posted: No conceal-carry  
18 weapons are allowed.

19 So, Representative Salazar, I  
20 disagree. Let's not give criminals another  
21 tool because if you only delay the  
22 law-abiding citizens from getting guns, you  
23 give an advantage to the criminal.

24 And let me tell you something about  
25 being a woman having been attacked by a man

1 much larger than myself. It's not equal  
2 force, even in hand-to-hand situations.

3 And if you're in a rural area, the  
4 police can be up to 30 minutes away. And a  
5 kitchen knife just doesn't -- that just  
6 doesn't cut it. It just -- it just really  
7 doesn't.

8 And if we're going to rely on  
9 government, even in the urban areas, the  
10 reason I want a concealed-carry is it's too  
11 hard to carry a policeman around.

12 And let's consider one more thing.  
13 Background checks, restrictions on gun  
14 ownership, actually hurt the people,  
15 particularly poor blacks in urban areas where  
16 there is high crime, statistically because  
17 they cannot protect themselves.

18 If there are background checks in  
19 the transfer of weapons, you will only slow  
20 down the law-abiding citizens and give  
21 another tool to aid the criminal.

22 I urge a no vote.

23 Thank you.

24 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE: Representative  
25 Fields.

1           REPRESENTATIVE FIELDS: Thank you,  
2 Mr. Speaker.

3           And I -- I -- I guess I first need  
4 to respond to Representative Saine's comment  
5 about the -- the shooter in Aurora because  
6 that did happen in my district. And where he  
7 lived, you know, that theater was right in  
8 the neighborhood, was right in the community.  
9 He did not have to pass other theaters to get  
10 there. That theater was the closest theater  
11 to his residence. Okay.

12           This bill is not about equal force.  
13 This bill is about addressing private sales  
14 because right now, in the State of Colorado,  
15 private sales are unregulated.

16           We've been hearing some comments  
17 about, you know, these bills do absolutely  
18 nothing. This bill will not do anything.  
19 And I can tell you that 80 percent of the  
20 voters in Colorado believe that a background  
21 check is a reasonable thing to do before a  
22 gun is transferred.

23           40 percent of all guns are purchased  
24 privately. And convicted felons know that if  
25 they want to buy a gun, simply go on the



1 Internet or simply look at a classified ad.

2 And if you see someone advertising a gun,

3 all's you have to do is call them up, and

4 that gun will be transferred.

5 Currently the CBI system works. I  
6 have a chart here that says that 956 people  
7 were denied access to a gun based on  
8 completing a CBI check. 956, that's close to  
9 a thousand.

10 What this bill does, it expands our  
11 current system, which is proven to work.  
12 It -- it proved that 956 people in the month  
13 of January should not have a gun. Why? And  
14 this is from CBI InstaCheck, because they had  
15 committed homicide, because 22 of them had  
16 sexually assaulted someone. Some of them had  
17 robbery, some of them had burglary and  
18 dangerous drugs and other situations. So it  
19 works.

20 We had -- we heard conversation  
21 about evil. If people are intending on doing  
22 evil, they will just do evil. Well, I will  
23 tell you evil cannot prevail in the presence  
24 of right. And I believe this bill is doing  
25 the right thing, because we are our brother's

1 keepers, and we need to make sure that before  
2 a gun is transferred, if that person doesn't  
3 meet the disqualifiers, to keep that person  
4 from having a gun.

5 This bill is widely supported by a  
6 whole host of people. This bill is supported  
7 by law enforcement. This bill is  
8 supported -- I mean, there's just a whole  
9 list of organizations that support background  
10 checks before a transfer of a gun.

11 This should be a bill that -- where  
12 we should have some common ground. We should  
13 all be able to agree that we don't want to  
14 see someone who doesn't meet the criteria to  
15 owning a gun, which means if you're a  
16 convicted felon or if you are mentally ill  
17 and you're not supposed to have access to a  
18 gun, then you shouldn't have one.

19 And that's what this bill does.  
20 It's going to keep the hand -- the guns out  
21 of the hands of people who are dangerous and  
22 for people who should not have them.

23 So, members, I urge you to join me  
24 and 80 percent of the Colorado voters in  
25 supporting background checks for the transfer

1 of guns.

2 Thank you.

3 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE: Representative  
4 McCann.

5 REPRESENTATIVE McCANN: Thank you,  
6 Mr. Speaker.

7 I'd like to address some of the  
8 points that were made.

9 First, actually, Representative  
10 Saine, Representative Hullinghorst, this bill  
11 actually will make you safer because that  
12 large man that you described will not be able  
13 to have a gun if he has a record, if he is a  
14 criminal. This is the point of this bill, is  
15 that those who should not have weapons will  
16 not be able to purchase them.

17 So the bill is not about taking away  
18 Representative Saine's right to have a gun or  
19 any of -- anyone in this chambers right to  
20 have a gun -- as long as they can pass a  
21 background check.

22 So arguments about being overpowered  
23 aren't really relevant to the issue of this  
24 bill, which is that it will require  
25 background checks by everyone.

1           And that is currently our situation  
2 with respect to people who buy them from  
3 licensed dealers or at gun shows.

4           The arguments that are being made  
5 would argue against background checks at all.  
6 Delays in waiting for the background check to  
7 clear, things of that sort, would argue  
8 against what is already in our law, and that  
9 is that we do require background checks. The  
10 \$10 fee is already in our law. The fact that  
11 the dealers must keep the record of a sale is  
12 already in our law. The fact that if the  
13 purchaser requests a copy of the background  
14 check clearance, that's already in our law.

15           And, Representative Wilson, I have  
16 wanted to speak directly to you because we  
17 did have this conversation.

18           This is -- this is the way the law  
19 is now for background checks. So if you have  
20 guns in your car that you have obtained  
21 through a background check, that's the way  
22 the law is now. There's no requirement that  
23 you show the police something.

24           What happens is it's the transfer of  
25 the weapon that's illegal. So if you were

1 ever charged with something like that, your  
2 dealer has a record of that, and that is our  
3 current law.

4 So it's -- we're not changing  
5 anything of that proof requirement or any  
6 enforcement requirement in this bill. All  
7 we're doing is extending our current law to  
8 people who purchase the guns privately or  
9 through the Internet.

10 We're not changing enforcement  
11 requirements. We're not changing any of  
12 that. It's really a very simple bill to  
13 expand that the -- the fact that everyone who  
14 purchases a gun needs to have a background  
15 check. It's common sense. It's  
16 reasonable -- it's a reasonable requirement,  
17 and it is supported by the vast majority of  
18 our constituents.

19 I would remind our colleagues that  
20 in 2000 -- in 2000, the people of Colorado  
21 voted 70 percent to 30 percent to require  
22 background checks in gun shows. That's  
23 already in our statute. And the way this  
24 bill would apply does not change any of that,  
25 does not change enforcement, does not change

1 the way we do the business. It simply  
2 expands it to private sales, clearly  
3 supported by the majority of Colorado  
4 residents.

5 And just -- I just want to also  
6 mention that -- respond to this idea that you  
7 can't will a gun to your -- your child. The  
8 law -- the bill allows for transfer to family  
9 members and also by operation of law. So  
10 Representative Gerou will be able to leave  
11 her firearms to her children under this bill.

12 And, finally, I want to just point  
13 out again a few statistics because of the  
14 need for data.

15 According to Department of Justice  
16 statistics, in states that require background  
17 checks for every handgun sale, 38 percent  
18 fewer women are shot to death by intimate  
19 partners.

20 In 2011 the most -- the year for  
21 which most recent data is available, at least  
22 13 of the 34 domestic violence deaths in  
23 Colorado occurred in cases where the domestic  
24 violence offender used a firearm despite  
25 being prohibited under the law from

1 purchasing or possessing firearms. So this  
2 bill will directly address those situations  
3 where a domestic violence offender is able to  
4 purchase a firearm.

5 We also know that -- well, according  
6 to one study, domestic violence assaults  
7 involving a firearm are 23 times more likely  
8 to result in death than those involving other  
9 weapons or bodily force.

10 Another study found that abused  
11 women are five times more likely to be killed  
12 by their abuser if the abuser owns a firearm.

13 This bill is a common-sense response  
14 to require everyone, not just those of you  
15 seated here, but everyone who wants to  
16 purchase a firearm to -- to go through a  
17 background check. It's a safety issue. It  
18 will provide a safer environment for all of  
19 us here in Colorado.

20 And I urge a yes vote.

21 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE: Any further  
22 discussion?

23 Seeing none, the question before the  
24 House is the passage of House Bill 1229 on  
25 third reading and final passage.

1           Mr. Kolar, please open the machine.

2           And, members, proceed to vote.

3           Close the machine.

4           With 36 aye votes, 29 no votes, zero  
5   excused, and zero absent, House Bill 1229 is  
6   passed.

7           Cosponsors, closed --

8           (Whereupon, the recording was concluded.)

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CERTIFICATE

STATE OF COLORADO )  
CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER ) ss.

I, Elissa Steen, Registered Professional Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of Colorado, do hereby certify that this transcript was taken in shorthand by me from an audio recording and was reduced to typewritten form by computer-aided transcription; that the speakers in this transcript were identified by me to the best of my ability and according to the introductions made and written materials provided; that the foregoing is a true transcript of the proceedings had; that I am not attorney, nor counsel, nor in any way connected with any attorney or counsel for any of the parties to said action or otherwise interested in its event.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my hand and notarial seal this 21st day of June, 2013.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Registered Professional Reporter  
and  
Notary Public