



# Rep. Tom Emmer on Emmer Explains His New Gun Legislation

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**\*\*HOST:**

\*\* [Introduction not included in transcript]

**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* Hi, Tom Emmer here. Our founders understood that an individual's right to keep and bear arms is a crucial individual liberty and in Minnesota it also has become an important part of our heritage. This great nation's founding document states, quote, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed. However, in recent years we have seen this fundamental right being attacked. This president's executive actions on guns should not deprive law-abiding Americans of their constitutional rights. Instead, due to the president's action on guns, sales of firearms across this country have skyrocketed. Currently, the federal government denies thousands of Americans their right to purchase a firearm, many of these due to an error the government made while identifying them. In fact, in 2014, 91,000 people were denied the ability to purchase a firearm. Up until recently, the National Instant Criminal Background Check System provided for an appeal process if an individual is denied due to false information. Reports from months ago show there are nearly 7,100 appeals that have yet to be processed, but the FBI doesn't report this information to Congress. Unfortunately, the president is not alone in his unilateral actions to diminish the rights of Americans across this country. His administration has joined him. Not only is the federal government failing to respond to the appeals in front of them, but in January, the FBI suspended the appeals process entirely. With this move, not only are they infringing on the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens, but now they're impeding our Fifth Amendment right to due process as well. That's why I introduced the Firearm Due Process Protection Act. This legislation will protect the constitutional rights of Americans by requiring that a determination be made on every appeal within 60 days. Additionally, Americans will be given the right to seek a court judgment to correct invalid information if the FBI doesn't act on an appeal within the deadline. Lastly, this legislation increases congressional oversight by requiring statistics regarding the total number and nature of appeals be reported to Congress. Citizens who go through the appropriate legal process of ensuring their own personal protection should not face unnecessary government blockades. Two months is more than a reasonable amount of time to run a background check and correct false information. Above all, citizens must always have recourse when denied fundamental constitutional rights. I am, always have been, and always will be a strong and absolute supporter of our nation's Second Amendment. And I can assure you that I will fight for our constitutional rights as long as I have the honor to serve Minnesota's 6th Congressional District. Thanks.

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