

DEVONE: We are here to represent **Save Our City**, a Hartford youth group dedicated to finding ways to better our community.

Everyone in our group has seen the results of gun violence up close. We know people who have survived being shot, and we knew people who didn't.

Last week, two people got shot right in front of me on Barber Street. I froze. The man was standing right there. I'm lucky to be here today.

ADRIAN: We are here to show our support for House Bill 5818, which will make it more difficult for people to sell guns illegally on the street.

The people need to realize that gun violence is not just something that happens every once in a while in Hartford. It's an every day thing.

We grew up like gun violence is natural.

But something should be done about this. Something should have been done.

DENTON: This is how it happens: When kids start getting suspended from school – like in middle school – that's when they start spending time out on the street, holding guns.

Once a kid has a gun, then all his friends have access to that gun. Pretty soon, his friends all want one for themselves.

Also, the kids who aren't his friends, then they feel like they need to get a gun to protect themselves.

JAMEL: With so many illegal guns out there on the street, pretty soon everyone has one. People sell gun to anybody they can. They don't care who gets shot, or who they sell the guns to, as long as they get the money.

Why wouldn't anyone support this bill if it will make the streets safer?

Please support House Bill 5818.

Devone Cade, Hartford
Adrian Easterling, Hartford
Denton Clahar, Hartford
Jamel Jenkins, Hartford
Stanley Weaver, Hartford
Chris Gills, Hartford
Jonathan Martinez, Hartford
Eddie Coleman, Hartford
Donovan Edwards, Hartford
Vanessa Stevens, Hartford
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