

**Connecticut House (District 022)
Connecticut Senate (District S31)**

Dear Legislators,

My name is Jonathan Stanco and I reside in Plainville, Connecticut. I am a member of DAFR(Disabled Americans for Firearm Rights). I am writing to you in **STRONG** opposition regarding the many gun control bills that are currently being proposed.

As a law-abiding, disabled, citizen who chooses to exercise his God-given right, (protected by the second amendment) I fear you may not understand the consequences of your actions. My disability is paraplegia. This means I have substantial neurological and muscular loss in a good majority of my lower body and extremities. This condition forces me to utilize a wheelchair permanently and is the major influencing factor as to how I select firearms suitable for myself in both recreation and protection(i/e AR-15, a modern sporting rifle). Those of us with a physical disability may not be able to utilize certain firearms already, and by passing this legislation, you would further limit us even more. I ask you, Is this what you want to accomplish?

Specifically, I would like to point out how one of the many bills would limit us. This is S.B. No. 1076. Many of the firearms named, attempting to be banned or regulated would in essence prevent many of us from using a long arm in self-defense, hunting or target shooting at the range. Here are just a few line items why:

- A pistol grip or other similar device under the action of the firearm (near the trigger usually) helps me stabilize and safely and properly hold a firearm.
- A folding/telescoping stock is useful for adjusting the length of the rifle to safely and accurately utilize the firearm.
- A flash suppressor partially protects the operator's eyes by reducing the effects when discharging the firearm. Especially in a low-light situation which may be part of a home invasion scenario.
- A forward grip which is extremely useful in helping to safely stabilize the firearm and safely and accurately discharge it.
- A rifle with an overall length of less than 30 inches would be extremely beneficial to a person of small stature or someone with a disability due to its lighter weight. This would help to ensure safe and proper handling as it would be easier to manipulate. (Extremely important in a self-defense situation.)

That being explained, we realize that we are working towards a common goal. The safety and well being of all people in the USA. Limiting the rights of law-abiding citizens is **NOT** the answer. We need to better understand these past tragedies and make sure that criminals, dangerous and/or ill individuals do not have access to a firearm or any other capacity to cause harm.

We are a community who is willing to work with you to help solve the problem. Many of us hold this dear right and responsibility very close. We are **UNITED**. We are **VERY** active in our community and are getting involved politically everyday.

As a **SINGLE-ISSUE** voter currently, I want you to know that I will hold you accountable for eroding my rights and **LIMITING** my ability to enjoy my life and protect myself from harm. Passing laws to limit law-abiding citizens' access to firearms of any type will **GUARANTEE THE FOLLOWING:**

- You **WILL PREVENT** me from being able to exercise my rights and enjoy some of the shooting sports.
- I **WILL** expose how you limited the rights of the law-abiding people both able-bodied and disabled alike.
- I **WILL** be active in **support of any candidate** who runs against you, who will not do the same. (this includes my pledge to work on my own time, unpaid, to help said candidate in any way possible. {i/e outreach, fund raising, etc.})
- I **WILL** do what is humanly possible, reasonable and legal to make sure you are **NOT RE-ELECTED**.
- I **WILL NOT** accept excuses, lies or mis-information.
- I **WILL NOT** be broken, deterred, persuaded or otherwise influenced to the contrary.

I would like to invite you as a guest to a local shooting range where I can personally demonstrate why a change in the regulation of certain weapons would be prohibitive and detrimental.

Jonathan Stanco