March 8, 2019

State of Connecticut
Judiciary Committee

Dear Judiciary Committee,

Thank you for taking the time to read our testimony opposing H.B. 7218 (Ethan’s Law). Current CT law already provides criminal and strict civil liability for failure to safely store loaded firearms at a residence. By adding new laws will NOT guarantee that irresponsible gun owners will abide by this. While it was a tragedy for Ethan and his family, unfortunately there are people in this world who simply do NOT follow the law. There is no proof that if this law were in effect the owner of the firearm would have abided. This person was NOT a responsible gun owner. This bill is only focuses on the punitive not prevention. We need to educate our youth on the safety of firearms even if there are none in their own home. Please focus on the education part of this tragedy like we do with alcohol and drugs. And even with all that education, there is still no guarantee that people won’t make very bad choices.

We urge you to oppose H.B. 7218

Thank you,

Alan and Karin Blaschik
53 Palmer Martin Rd.
East Haddam, CT 06423