H.B. No. 7218 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE SAFE STORAGE OF FIREARMS IN THE HOME

I am writing in OPPOSITION to the proposed law stated above.

While on the face of it this seems harmless, you just need to hear the rationale behind the law to know otherwise. There is no question that Ethan Song’s death was tragic. This doesn’t not, however, justify the creation of flawed legislation.

The owner of the gun in question believed that he did precisely what the law, as amended, states “...keeps the firearm in a securely locked box or other container or in a [location] manner which a reasonable person would believe to be secure,...”. The owner stored handgun in his closet, it was not loaded, with a cable lock on the firearm. He took actions of a reasonable person and did what he was supposed to do.

I understand Ethan’s family wants someone to blame. Unfortunately the blame falls upon Ethan and the owner’s son not the owner of the firearm. There is no certainty that law would have prevented Ethan’s death. Ethan and the gun owner’s son could still have been able to do exactly what they did. But the gun’s owner would bear the official blame although he took actions that were correct.

Again, I am asking the committee to vote “No” on this well intended but flawed bill.

Thomas Darna
63 Salem Rd
Lyme, CT 06371