Senator Winfield, Representative Stafstrom, ranking members Kissel and Rebimbas
and distinguished members of the Joint Committee on the Judiciary:

I am a Connecticut resident and mother of two testifying in support of H.B. 7218 An
Act Concerning the Safe Storage of Firearms in the Home, H.B. 7223 An Act
Concerning the Safe Storage of Firearms in Vehicles, H.B. 7219 An Act Concerning
Ghost Guns and S.B. 60 An Act Concerning the Presentation of a Carry Permit.

My younger child is 12 years old, the same age the children who were murdered at
Sandy Hook would be if they were alive today. My older child is in tenth grade, as
Ethan Song would be if he were alive today. I will never forget the moment I heard of
their deaths, nor will I forget the terrible experience of telling my children that kids
like them had died by gun violence.

I am inspired by the Parkland survivors, who have turned their fear and anger into
activism. But as an adult, I am ashamed that these children have had to speak out for
their own safety. In Connecticut, we can do better.

I support H.B. 7218 An Act Concerning the Safe Storage of Firearms in the Home and
H.B. 7223 An Act Concerning the Safe Storage of Firearms in Vehicles, because I
believe securing unloaded guns will have a positive impact on accidental gun deaths
and suicides, particularly with respect to children, and mass shootings and other
crimes involving guns. I believe we need to close the loophole in current law, which
requires that only loaded guns be secured, because children should not bear the
burden of protecting themselves from an adult’s gun.

I support H.B. 7219 An Act Concerning Ghost Guns, because untraceable, unregulated
guns are a blatant threat to public safety. Failing to regulate these guns is utterly
indefensible. We have no federal leadership on this issue, so Connecticut lawmakers
must act now.

I support S.B. 60 An Act Concerning the Presentation of a Carry Permit, because the
sight of a person openly carrying a gun in these times causes suspicion at best and
panic at worst. Law enforcement should be given every tool to defuse tense situations
that could lead to violence. People who are openly carrying are required to have their
permits on them. It is no significant burden to be asked to produce it.

For the above reasons, I strongly support H.B. 7218, H.B. 7219 and S.B. 60 and urge
you to favorably vote these bills out of the Judiciary Committee.

Sincerely,

Christine Dokko

Guilford, CT