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

My name is Katherine Doucet, I am from Guilford, CT. I am researcher and coordinator at the Yale School of Public Health and the mother of two children.

Below is my testimony on H.B. 7218

In Support of H.B. 7218: An Act Concerning the Safe Storage of Firearms in the Home

I am grateful to the sponsors of Ethan’s Law/H.B. 7218 for championing this much-needed improvement in Connecticut law.

I have deep and longstanding interest in the health and well-being of our state’s residents, particularly that of its children. With regards to health and safety of minors, safe firearms storage is an essential duty we as individual adults, and as a state, owe to our children.

Ethan Song’s death was a dreadful shock to me. My daughter is a year younger than Ethan and our families share many friends. It could just as easily have been one of my own children killed with an unsafely stored firearm while visiting another family’s home.

We must resolve the discrepancy in our law that precludes prosecution of such absurdly shoddy firearms storage as that which cost young Ethan his life.

Every minor in Connecticut needs and deserves to be adequately legally protected from unsafe firearm storage, as written in Ethan’s Law/H.B. 7218.

I strongly support H.B. 7218 and urge you to favorably vote this bill out of the Judiciary Committee.

Sincerely,

Katie Doucet

Guilford, CT