

March 10, 2019

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

My name is Christine Farley. I am from West Hartford. I am affiliated with Connecticut Against Gun Violence.

I am 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 husband and I have a friend whose daughter was shot and killed when she was in her early 20's. The way that kind of violence haunts the family and friends of the victim is indescribable.

Weekly, I read in the paper of multiple deaths caused by guns. For many years, when I would despair about gun violence in our country, I would think, well at least I live in Connecticut. That changed with Sandy Hook.

Connecticut has been a leader in gun safety legislation. Not to go the full distance makes no sense. Why should anyone be able to get, via email purchase, 80 percent of the parts of a complete gun which can then be assembled and is untraceable? Why would we not want to lock away from our children any guns we have in our homes or cars?

It's the most spurious of arguments to say that gun safety laws do not prevent gun violence. With that kind of logic, why even have laws at all? It's like saying laws against murder don't prevent all murders.

Please take these final steps on gun safety for our state. Let Connecticut go the full distance in being a model to other states on how to create a society, safe from gun violence, for its citizens.

I strongly support H.B. 7218, H.B. 7223, H.B. 7219, and S.B. 60 and urge you to favorably vote these bills out of the Judiciary Committee.

Sincerely,
Christine Farley
West Hartford