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

My name is James Hyman. I am from Guilford. I am a college student with unfortunate knowledge of how important these bills are.

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.

After the tragedy that struck my town at the beginning of last year, I have it took it upon myself to really understand the legislature surrounding guns in our state. When examining the death of Ethan Song, or any other tragic occurrence throughout the country, the missing factor always seems to be common sense. If the firearms had been secured safely, then I may not be writing to you today, because Ethan would not have died. As a human being with a moral compass, this legislation is important to me because I do not want to see more families and friends have to go through the pain and agony that is losing a loved one. So, whether the firearms are in a home or a vehicle, it is obvious that there must be more strict regulation around their storage. As seen in many mass casualty shootings across our country and even in our own state, the perpetrator of these horrible acts should not have had access to lethal weapons. With an act concerning ghost guns in place, people would be unable to forgo background checks by manufacturing the guns without a serial number. For the safety of every person, that needs to change. Lastly, people have the right to bear arms, it is written in our Constitution, but a carry permit must be presented in every case in order to ensure no guns fall into the wrong hands.

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,

James Hyman
Guilford, CT