

8 March, 2019

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

My name is Jacqueline Rubell Johnson, from West Hartford. I am mother of two grown children who I was blessed to raise in safety here in Connecticut. 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*.

I write as someone who has had the good fortune not to be touched directly by gun violence, and with the knowledge that life can change in a heartbeat. I do not take my good fortune for granted or choose to wait until this ever-growing problem touches my loved ones.

- Strengthening the safe storage law will help reduce gun death and injury from unintentional shootings, stolen guns used in crimes, teen suicide and school shootings.
- There is no valid reason for letting people evade Connecticut gun laws by making it possible to assemble untraceable guns at home without passing a background check or getting a gun permit.
- Carrying guns in public is associated with higher levels of violence. It's a public safety issue and law enforcement can't do their job if they aren't allowed to see the permit that a legal gun owner must carry.

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,
Jacqueline Rubell Johnson
West Hartford, CT