

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

My name is Lillian Maisfehl. I am from Chester. I am a member of The Valley Stands Up, an independent civic group created to unite our diverse communities in the Lower Connecticut River Valley area through outreach, organizing, and advocacy to support the dignity and human rights of all.

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*.

While I am not a gun owner, I grew up in a family of gun owners, and was taught from a young age that the responsibility to own a firearm is not to be taken lightly, that a gun is a tool that can be deadly if mishandled or allowed to fall into the hands of someone who lacks proper training and ability to use it responsibly.

The provisions outlined in H.B. 718 and H. B. 7223 are common sense measures that any responsible gun owner should support. They are designed to promote safe storage in order to keep guns owned for legal purposes safe and controlled by those who own them. They do not infringe on the rights of gun ownership; they only set a set of basic parameters under which a gun may be safely stored when not in use. It is in the interest of all Connecticut residents, gun owners and non-owners alike, to back these bills.

H.B. 7219 and S. B. 60 likewise work to ensure that guns remain in the hands of those who use them responsibly. They are common sense measures intended not to curtail rights, but simply to help keep gun ownership safe for those to choose to do so.

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,

Lillian Maisfehl

Chester, CT