

March 10, 2019

Judiciary Committee Public Hearing 3/11/19

Please support HB 7218, AN ACT CONCERNING THE SAFE STORAGE OF FIREARMS IN THE HOME; and

Please support HB 7219, AN ACT CONCERNING GHOST GUNS

Dear Senator Winfield, Representative Stafstrom, and members of the Judiciary Committee:

My name is Susan Miller. I live in Windsor. I am writing today in support of HB 7218 and HB 7219.

As a parent of boys, I have seen the highs and lows and impulsivity of teenage years. This combination can become deadly in a home where there is easy access to firearms. Too many times, this can end in suicide or accidental homicide. We have an epidemic of gun violence in our country. This would not be the case if guns weren't so available. Requiring safe storage just makes common sense and is the least we can do to keep guns out of impulsive hands.

Ghost guns also need to be regulated. There is no valid argument for anyone to possess unregistered, untraceable, undetectable firearms. The threat to public safety is real. Ghost guns have been used in mass shootings, in attacks on law enforcement and have been seized in criminal investigations, including here in CT. In January 2019 a Southington man was convicted for trying to sell a ghost gun on armslist.com. In 2018 a Willimantic teen was arrested for selling multiple ghost guns, telling an undercover agent that demand was so high, he couldn't keep up.

Please support HB 7218 and HB 7219. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Susan Miller
10 Ethan Drive
Windsor, CT 06095