

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

My name is Marybeth Aucoin Moore, I am from West Hartford, CT. I am a concerned CT resident, mom of 3, common sense gun law advocate, practicing physician assistant and public health provider. 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*, and H.B. 7219, *An Act Concerning Ghost Guns*.

Morbidity and mortality from gun violence has certainly reached epidemic proportions in the United States. It is time to view the gun violence epidemic as a public health crisis and not as a red and blue issue. I support these three bills as they will reduce access to guns and therefore reduce gun violence. There is a clear causal link between access to guns and harm by homicide, suicide and accident.

H.B. 7218 will reduce youth access to firearms. Children and teenagers are impulsive, their prefrontal cortex is not fully formed, this combined with access to firearms is a recipe for disaster. Limiting minors access to firearms makes sense.

H.B. 7223 will reduce the possibility that criminals and minors will be able to steal a gun from a vehicle. Again- this just makes sense.

H.B. 7219 simply supports the current law and prevents a loop hole in which a person can own a gun without a serial number or any registration. Again- a common sense measure.

All three of these bills are common sense measures that place minimal burden on the gun owner and serve to greatly reduce access to firearms from those who should not have access; minors, and all persons who would not pass a background check.

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

Sincerely,  
Marybeth Aucoin Moore

West Hartford, CT