

*The Rev. Mary Anne Osborn
Guilford, CT 06437*

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

My name is Mary Anne Osborn and I am from Guilford, CT. I am an Episcopal priest, a mother, a grandmother, and an involved citizen in CT. I am writing testimony in **support of H.B. 7219**, An Act Concerning Ghost Guns.

The availability of Ghost Guns is an enormous threat to our well-being as a society governed by a system of laws designed for the good of all the people. Ghost Guns operate in another, lawless culture altogether. Ghost Guns do not have to be registered, there are no serial numbers, there are no background checks required to acquire one, and if they are plastic (and metal firing pins are removed), they can bypass metal detectors. And perhaps most frightening of all is that Ghost Guns are obtainable by *anyone*, thus a convicted felon who is unable to legally obtain a firearm can go online and acquire a ghost gun.

I do not want my grandchildren, or any person, to live in a world where an untraceable gun can be ordered online, no questions asked, just as easily as one can order a new coffee pot.

Law Enforcement authorities across the country say that they are increasingly coming across gang members and felons in possession of Ghost Guns, and Federal Law has not kept up with the repercussions of the availability Ghost Guns.¹

Connecticut can take the lead on this vital issue by passing HB 7219. There is no valid reason for letting people evade CT Gun laws and CT law enforcement with DIY guns that are untraceable and require no permit or background check.

Thank you for voting to make our state a leader in creating safer communities.

Sincerely,

Mary Anne Osborn

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¹ Officials across the country fear a new era of untraceable firearms. NBCnews.com; Feb. 9, 2017.