

March 10, 2019

Chairman and Members of the CT Judiciary Committee,

I am writing in support of

- H.B. 7223 An Act Concerning the Safe Storage of Firearms in Vehicles
- H.B. 7218 An Act Concerning the Safe Storage of Firearms in the Home
- H.B. 7219 An Act Concerning Ghost Guns
- S.B. 60 An Act Concerning the Presentation of a Carry Permit

And I ask that you support them with your votes.

I have been working for gun safety legislation for the 17 years I have lived in Connecticut, and am proud that we are one of the states leading the country in gun safety laws, and even prouder that we have one of the lowest gun death rates.

We need to pass H.B.7223 because statistics and facts show that guns are easily and regularly stolen out of vehicles and then used in crimes. Leaving an unsecured firearm in a car is the epitome of recklessness and yet it happens time and time again in CT.

As a mother of two, I support H. B. 7218 (Ethan's Law) because I KNOW that by requiring gun owners to secure their firearms *will stop accidental shootings* of all types. From small children, to emotional teens, to adults in a moment of rage, everyone in our CT households will be safer with firearms secured. Why lose one more child to such a solvable problem?

This year, we definitely need to pass H.B.7219 to stop ghost guns and 3D printed, unserialized, untraceable, undetectable guns from being in Connecticut. Both categories of firearms are clear workarounds to current law, law enforcement, and common sense. There is NO upside to allowing unserialized, non-background checked guns to be built by people who are not legally permitted to own firearms! These weapons are so on the fringe and absurd, this should be an easy pass.

And as for S.B. 60, If I am stepping into a CT trout stream, I am required to have my fishing license. It is in a clear plastic holder, on my vest. The idea that anyone can openly carry a loaded firearm in the waistband of their pants- and defy a police officer who asks to see their permit, is ridiculous. ANYONE carrying a firearm around in public, must have a permit- so they should have no problem proving that they have been background checked and have been cleared to lawfully carry it upon request. If anyone is visibly carrying a weapon in CT WITHOUT a permit, they should be stopped. If they have a permit, they shouldn't mind showing it.

Please listen to the vast majority of CT citizens, who want to feel safe and need to know their children, teens and families are safe in our beautiful state. Please support H.B.7218, H.B.7223, H.B. 7219, and S.B. 60.

Thank you,  
Amy Pines, Westport