

H.B. 7218, H.B. 7223, H.B. 7219, S.B.60

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

My name is Debra Rosati. I am from Trumbull. I am a citizen and parent concerned with some of the deficiencies regarding our gun legislation in CT.

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*.

I am concerned that we are not doing enough to protect innocent victims from gun violence. It is so unnecessary to hear about these deaths that occur from the improper control of gun ownership and the creation of untraceable guns.

I grew up with hunters. They had several rifles and pistols that were all securely locked in a gun cabinet with access only available to the owner. They all had permits. I do not want to deny people access to a gun if they use it for proper recreation or feel that they need to protect themselves. However, with ownership comes responsibility. If we have childproof caps for aspirin to prevent children from dying, don't you think that we should have childproof gun storage to prevent children from dying? We should be doing whatever we can to protect the lives of innocent people.

H.B. 7218 needs to be strengthened by applying to both unloaded and loaded guns. This revision doesn't diminish a gun owner's ability to defend himself, it just includes any gun, whether loaded or unloaded. If a gun owner has stored his guns securely, then criminal liability should not be a concern. Negligence to not do so is the concern. As evidenced by the Ethan Strong case, regardless of whether or not the gun was loaded, there was ammunition and keys readily available near the guns making being loaded or unloaded irrelevant in trying to safeguard against getting into the wrong hands.

H.B. 7223 needs to include unattended motor vehicles, and to have storage requirements apply to include minors aged 16 and 17. Many deaths are attributed to guns that were stolen from vehicles. By providing more accountability, it will save lives and avoid unnecessary deaths.

It seems absolutely ludicrous to me that there is no legislation regarding 3D and ghost guns. This is like a Get out of Jail card Free for criminals. This is like letting criminals go wild.

H.B. 7219 needs to prohibit 3D and ghost guns. The creation of these guns only serves to allow for illegal behavior. It encourages illegal activity. A law abiding citizen would buy a gun through proper channels, background checks and registration requirements. Only criminals are interested in guns that aren't traceable. This weakens our law enforcement efforts by enabling

criminals to get away with their activities. This diminishes the pride law enforcement will have on their efforts to protect their community. They are not being supported by their state to curtail criminal activity when the state is allowing for these guns to be produced. And these criminals are not going to be interested in securing the guns safely to avoid access to children, thereby increasing the number of accidental, unnecessary deaths. How can you not have legislation outlawing the use, sale or any involvement with 3D or ghost guns?

If gun carriers are concerned about their safety, then they should also be concerned about the safety for all. There is no reason why a gun carrier can't be asked to show their permit to allow for law enforcement to do a better job protecting the community.

S.B. 60 should allow for police to ask anyone to show their permit. Anyone who is carrying for their safety, should understand that the request to see the permit is also for the safety of those around them. This gives law enforcement more power to provide a safe environment for everyone, and to curtail unsafe gun use. It is those with illegal intentions that would be adverse to showing their permit, and probably because they don't even have one. Carrying a gun in public is a safety issue. I feel that by carrying it, you are asking for trouble. I think that it endangers those around you. But for those that want to carry it, they should be required to show their permit whenever requested.

I strongly support H.B. 7218, H.B. 7223, H.B. 7219 and S.B. 60 and urge you to favorably vote these bills out of the Judiciary Committee.

Sincerely,

Debra Rosati

Trumbull, CT