

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you in opposition of House Bills 7218, 7219, and 7223.

House Bill 7218, "An act concerning safe storage of firearms in the home", is an ineffective and unnecessary bill. Current law already specifies that firearms must be properly stored when there are minors within the home. The additional regulations specified in HB 7218 are burdensome and only serve to further penalize law abiding firearm owners. The bill, no matter how well intended, would not have stopped the unfortunate incident that occurred in Guilford, and lawful gun owners should not be punished for that incident.

House Bill 7219, "An act concerning ghost guns", is both unnecessary and as it stands, badly written. As the bill is currently worded, any firearm (even one legally purchased) could not be legally re-assembled if it does not have a serial number. This includes countless antique firearms, causing lawful gun owners to become felons if they disassemble their legal antiques for routine maintenance or transport. The bill would do nothing to prevent criminals from obtaining, using, or hiding firearms. Ultimately, the bill only hurts those who choose to follow the law and will not improve public safety.

Lastly, House Bill 7223 "An act concerning the storage of a pistol or revolver in a motor vehicle" is designed almost exclusively to hurt lawful gun owners. A locked vehicle is already a secure location, and a thief could easily choose to steal an entire lockbox (and the firearm stored within) since they were already willing to break into the car. This would make merely parking a car at the gun range with an unlocked pistol inside an illegal act. Ultimately, this bill would only turn legal firearm owners into criminals for being the victim of a robbery.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony,

From Richard Vollmer