

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

My name is Carol R. Wade and I am from New Haven, CT. I am a former school psychologist working with teenagers, and am now a member of the gun violence prevention groups Do Not Stand Idly By and CT Against Gun Violence.

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.

We must expand our laws concerning the safe storage of firearms in the home and in motor vehicles. Many lives will be saved from accidental shootings, suicide, school shootings, and mass shootings. Thousands and thousands of people are killed every year by gun violence, and safely storing firearms is one thing we must do to cut down on gun violence, and hold those whose weapons are not securely locked responsible. Every day, eight children are unintentionally shot or killed by a gun. Securely stored firearms—whether loaded or not—would prevent most of these tragedies.

Making ghost guns illegal would cut off an increasing supply of weapons that are not traceable nor are they registered. They can be built by people using Utube videos or having knowledge of mechanical techniques. These should not be allowed under any circumstance!

Gun violence in our country is out of control!! We must pass safe gun laws to counter this overwhelming killing of people. No other country has as many guns per person nor as many fatalities as we do. This is the real national emergency, and everything should be done to counter it.

HB-7218, HB-7223, HB-7219, and SB-60 must be passed to begin to act against gun violence in CT, and become a model for the nation!!

Sincerely,

Carol R Wade

New Haven, CT