

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

My name is James Weaver, I am from West Hartford, CT and a lifelong CT Resident. Since the horrific events at Sandy Hook and Parkland, I've been active in the gun violence prevention movement. Although I have not been personally impacted by gun violence, I am not immune to the daily reminders of how fragile life is and how many in our country have lost loved ones to this epidemic. I have decided to get off the sidelines and take action and will continue to do everything I can to enact common sense gun laws in our State and Country.

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*, and H.B. 7219, *An Act Concerning Ghost Guns*.

I support HB 7218 - safe storage of firearms in the home. I feel very strongly that, as parents, we need to do everything we can to protect our children from unintentional shootings. These events are preventable and gun owners should be held responsible for the safe storage of their firearms. Expanding safe storage requirements will help save lives from multiple sources of gun violence: unintentional shootings, crime-related gun violence (facilitated by stolen guns), suicide, school and other mass shootings. It will send a clear message to irresponsible gun owners: lock up your firearms when they are not in your immediate control or be held accountable.

I also support HB 7219 - the regulation of ghost and 3D printed guns. The existence of this technology gives dangerous people the ability to evade background checks. Furthermore, the circulation of untraceable guns increases the transfer of guns on the black market - allowing criminals to obtain a gun without a permit. The threat to public safety is real and we need to do what we can to keep guns out of the hands of dangerous people.

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

Sincerely,

James Weaver
West Hartford, CT