

To whom it may concern,

My name is Anthony Spencer. I am a U.S. Army veteran, and I am also a victim of a mass shooting at my job, Hartford distributors, which is located in Manchester CT. I feel that all these new gun laws that you are planning on putting in place will in fact make law abiding gun owners less safe. It is just wrong to the people who follow the law. Nine times out of ten, the gun used in a crime or a shooting is stolen or bought illegally by the person committing the act. For instance, the ten round clip proposals will do nothing. It takes less than ten seconds to reload any gun. As for the AR15 issues, no matter how you make it look it still shoots the same as any *semi auto rifle*. Also, making ammo cost more is just going to make people practice less, therefore having more people carrying guns with less experience on how to use them which sounds like a terrible idea to me. The proposal to make gun owners have insurance to own a gun... Really? I need special insurance because I want to protect myself and my family? That's just absurd. I have insurance for accidents, and if I cannot afford to even practice more accidents are likely to happen. Pretty much everything that I have read regarding the proposed new guns laws would not have stopped Newtown from happening. It would not have stopped the shooting at my work. I worked with the guy who shot my work up and killed 8 of my friends. For a year and a half, I never thought once he was capable of that. Nor did I distrust him in any way. People are unpredictable and you can't change that. All you can do is at least let these unstable people know that if they plan on killing innocent people, they are at risk themselves of being shot as well. Do not give them the opportunity to freely take what they think they can take. There should be no gun free zones because to a person planning a mass shooting that sign just reads "shooting fish in a barrel." Ultimately, any weapon is dangerous especially in the wrong hands. Beyond that, anyone with that kind of mentality can turn anything into a weapon if they so desire. What can be done at such a point? When a woman in Florida can kill another with a SPORK over a dispute over who was in line first... Do you put bans on sporks? Also, why wasn't this addressed after the shooting at my job? It takes the lives of children to make a difference? As if my coworkers lives were worth less? It seems to me that it takes the lives of children to take drastic and un-thoughtful measures. If this is such an important issue, why wasn't it addressed earlier? I believe that the ideas you have are rash and ultimately ineffective. As a permit holder myself, I wish to have the power to protect myself and my family as I rightfully should be able to. In a world full of psychopaths and utter violence, I am in a position where I MUST be able to protect mine. I wish this weren't the case but that is life. I'm sure that you've heard this before but more gun laws will absolutely not make a difference. This is why: Criminals and unstable individuals don't and will never care about laws. The only people that do are the ones that would never hurt anyone intentionally. Furthermore, if these are people with mental health issues than that is what needs to be addressed. It is clear as can be. Take freedoms away and more people will be labeled as criminals. More criminals equates to more crime. And where will we be then? I ask you to consider your decisions carefully because they may cause more harm than you can fathom, especially when certain law makers are gun permit holders themselves. Thank you.

Anthony Wayne Spencer

January 25, 2013