

January 28, 2013

Dear Senators, Representatives, Committee Members, and Fellow Citizens,

Subject: Task force on gun violence and children's safety

In the wake of the Newtown tragedy, I have been following the discussion and legislation being presented to address gun violence, mental health, and school safety.

Connecticut already has among the strictest gun-control laws in the United States. Those laws did not prevent what happened in Newtown. I believe more gun laws will not prevent similar events in the future.

I do not believe in banning certain types of guns because they look intimidating. Limiting magazine capacity, taxing ammo, registering/limiting ammo purchases, or publishing the names of pistol permit holders will not make our communities safer. It will simply punish, and make criminals out of otherwise law abiding citizens. Criminals will not register their guns, or surrender their guns or magazines to comply with the law. All we will accomplish with stricter gun laws will be to limit the ability of law abiding citizens to defend themselves.

Responsible gun ownership is the not problem.

I do not believe stricter gun laws will make us safer, or would have prevented the Newtown tragedy. I urge you to **OPPOSE ANY AND ALL NEW GUN CONTROL LAWS AND RESTRICTIONS ON LAW ABIDING CITIZENS.**

We should focus on enforcing existing gun laws. The ideas and bills proposed so far, will do nothing to reduce future gun violence, but rather restrict the rights of Connecticut's law abiding citizens.

Your distinguished colleague, House Republican leader Larry Cafero of Norwalk, (two time supporter of assault weapons ban) stated in the Hartford Curreant January 5, 2013: "history has shown that simply passing legislation will not stop deranged criminals who are intent on committing an atrocity. There are some things that no matter what we do, we can't prevent a horrific incident as happened in Newtown." I agree with him.

I urge you to proceed calmly and logically.

Sincerely,

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