

## GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION WORKING GROUP

My name is Kim LaChance and I live in Bristol. I have brothers and friends who are hunters, but I am speaking today to urge you to pass the legislative proposals submitted by CT Against Gun Violence.

Semi-automatic assault weapons have no sporting or civilian use and their only purpose is to kill many people in a short amount of time. Large capacity ammunition magazines are designed to shoot a lot of people quickly and efficiently. They are useful for criminals and others intent on violent attacks, but are not needed for hunting or self-defense.

The Second Amendment speaks of the right to bear arms because a well regulated militia is necessary to the security of a free state. We have a well regulated militia, and the framers of the constitution could not have imagined the massive loss of life caused by assault weapons and high capacity rounds. There have been more than 70 mass shootings since the January 8, 2011 massacre in Tucson, Arizona. How many lives could have been saved if the Sandy Hook shooter had to keep pausing to reload? The rights of those innocent children to live certainly trumps the rights of anyone to own a weapon that can cause so much destruction in so little time.

It's time to enact meaningful legislation to ban high capacity ammunition magazines and strengthen the ban on assault weapons. In order for the legislation to be effective, grandfathering must not be allowed.

Our children are our greatest resource. As a mother and grandmother, I feel obligated to do everything in my power to prevent another senseless tragedy like Sandy Hook from happening. We, as a state, have an obligation to do everything in our power to prevent this as well. Please enact the proposals submitted by CT Against Gun Violence. Thank you for your time.