

I am a Redding, CT resident of twelve years and a mother of three school-age children. I am writing today to urge you to take the necessary steps for sensible gun control and gun safety legislation in CT.

We live in a country founded on freedom, but also one of checks and balances. Currently, gun control in the United States, including the state of CT, is out of control.

Existing gun legislation better serves the mentally ill, criminals and gun manufacturers than it does the citizens that it is meant to protect.

The right to bear arms is not the only issue now at hand—every American also has an inherent and basic right to safety in public spaces.

We have experienced an unthinkable tragedy in our part of the country. In Redding we are reminded of this every day, but this is not a new issue.

Please take the necessary steps to change this out of control situation and enact common sense gun control and gun safety legislation.

Our country, and CT, is better than this. Please be a part of the opportunity to make historical change for the better.

To me, the legislative agenda that has been put forth by the CAGV simply is common sense. I sincerely urge you to support the following controls:

A ban on high capacity ammunition magazines (with no grandfathering)

A strengthening of assault weapons ban (with no grandfathering)

The requirement of permits and universal background checks on ALL sales and transfers of guns, including long guns

The requirement of registration of handguns with annual renewal

The requirement of annual fee and annual background check for all handguns owned

The requirement that gun owners must stipulate that guns in their name are in their possession or must explain how the gun was transferred to another person

Required safety inspection every three years

Real consequences and liability liable for negligent storage: if any other person gains access to a gun owner's firearms and injures himself or another person or causes damage to property, the violation should be a Class D felony

A ban on the right of way for transportation of firearms and ammunition bought over the Internet

Taxation of ammunition sales

A requirement of a license/permit to purchase any gun or ammunition

The restriction of handgun sales to one gun/month

These are reasonable measures that will be truly effective at keeping guns out of the hands of those who shouldn't have them and making gun ownership safer for those who are allowed them.

We need to change the existing climate of gun violence that has developed this country, but this can't happen without common sense checks and balances. Please do what it takes to enact these gun control and safety controls.

If not now, when?

Sincerely,

Liz MacDonald

65 Gallows Hill Road  
Redding, CT 06896