

Dear representatives,

I live in Wilton, Connecticut and serve on the Wilton League of Women Voters. As an individual citizen and League member, I implore you to approach the topic of gun control with careful discussion, respect and action.

I, like so many other American citizens, respect the freedoms and rights to which the constitution has provided our nation, including, and not limited to, the right to bear arms.

As a rational and progressive nation we have preserved our First Amendment, while enacting restrictions to protect society as whole. No longer can one improperly use the forefathers intent of the First Amendment, be it for the purpose of defamation, libel, hate or inciting violence. Surely if we can establish restrictions to protect us regarding freedom of speech, we can arrive at logical actions to create protections around the “reasonable” use of guns.

Freedom is guaranteed to all citizens, but the freedom to send our children to school, enjoy a movie, attend a political meeting or shop freely in a mall are slowly being eradicated. Our nation is being assaulted from within and we have the responsibility to act. As we have the right to bear arms, so equally do we have the right to “domestic tranquility” .

Reasonable measures need to be implemented and strengthened regarding gun ownership. I ask that you strengthen Connecticut’s current ban on assault type weapons to include, all weapons which have one or more military feature. Follow and adopt the recent legislative action by our neighboring state of New York to ban the purchase and transfer of large capacity ammunition magazines with seven or more rounds. These military type arsenals have no place in ordinary citizen homes, or on the streets of our towns and cities. Extend Connecticut’s background check for the purchase of guns to include background checks for the private transfer and or sales of rifles and shotguns. Reinforce safe firearm storage regulations by including the responsibility of gun owners to properly store and avert unauthorized access to firearms. Acting on these requests, will not, and do not, infringe on any citizens right to carry reasonable arms.

I beseech you to act now. Act now with resolve and determination. Act now with morality and humanity. Act now with the voices of many.

Respectfully submitted,

*Lori Kaine
Wilton League of Women Voters*