

Dear Task Force Members,

I am a Connecticut resident, a local business owner, a law-abiding citizen and a responsible gun owner. I am saddened each and every time a gun is used to take a life. But I believe that efforts to impose new restrictions on me and other lawful and responsible owners like me are misguided. Focus should be on strengthening mental health care and improving the quality of data supporting NICs checks (National Instant Criminal Background Check System).

I do not support any additional restrictions to the purchase and ownership of firearms, ammunition, magazines, and related items. Please do not pass more gun laws; instead, let's work to enforce the gun laws already on the books. Let's work to keep firearms out of the hands of those that should not have access to them. Let's work to teach children that guns are not toys. Let's work to teach children to value life. After all, children grow up to be one of two groups, law-abiding citizens or criminals. Let's work to teach children that with the proper training, storage, and handling, owning guns can provide a safe form of sport as well as giving citizens the ability to defend themselves if needed. Both the Connecticut Constitution and the United States Constitution clearly state that people (law-abiding citizens) have the right to own and bear firearms. Let's keep it that way.

The proposed ban only affects law-abiding gun owners. Criminals have no interest in new gun laws, they have no regard for existing laws.

Sincerely,

Michael Crossen.