

My name is Norma Navarro, and I reside in Newington CT. I am against any further Assault Weapon or Magazine restrictions in the State of Connecticut.

In May of 2012, I left my job as a Police Officer in Arizona to move to Connecticut to start a family. My former Police Department in Arizona, much like many of the Police Departments in Connecticut, allows personally owned rifles to be carried on-duty.

As a result of the existing CT Assault Weapons Ban (CGS 53-202a), I was unable to bring my personally owned patrol rifle with me into the State of Connecticut when I moved. Ironically, it was manufactured here in Hartford by Colt. The existing CT Assault Weapons Ban is a poorly written law which has no provisions for out-of-state former Law Enforcement, in-state former Law Enforcement, firearms instructors, licensed collectors, and a myriad of other qualified professionals to keep their firearms even under lock and key. My only options were to pay to have the firearm modified to comply with Connecticut Law, or to sell the rifle.

I'm told these laws are to prevent criminals from having access to these weapons, but as you can see the real world results are much different. Criminals ignore these laws while the rest of us are affected.

I respectfully request that the committee not only refrain from expanding the CT Assault Weapons ban, but to look at removing the existing Assault Weapons ban which has proven to be ineffective against criminals, and appears to be most effective only at removing firearms from the hands of qualified individuals who choose to comply with the law.

The committee should focus strongly on preventing firearms, ANY firearms, from getting into the hands of criminals and unstable individuals.

Firearms in the hands of qualified citizens save lives.

Norma Navarro

Newington, CT