

January 28, 2013

Testimony:

Hello, my name is Rudi Bardhollari. I live on 98 Haddad Rd Waterbury CT and I am your constituent. I would first like to extend my deepest sympathies to all the victims' families and to all the survivors; we all felt the anguish on that dark day.

I address this letter to all of the members of this committee, because I am concerned as to what is happening before our eyes. We all want sensible measures that will reduce gun violence in our cities but the way that this has been done is simply unfair and unjust to all of us gun owners/ law abiding citizens. What you are trying to accomplish will be a cosmetic fix to the problem and it will not address the real issues and causes for violent acts such is that in Newtown. This so called "fix" will not curb gun violence but it will exacerbate the problem to no end. By taking away my right to defend myself and my family, you in turn have bestowed power to the criminal who has no need for gun control laws. Gun owners across the nation are seen as an extremist group of people who love guns more than people. I testify to you that we are just like you. We too have mothers, fathers, brothers and sisters that we would not like to see any harm done onto them.

As your constituent I oppose any measures taken by this committee that directly infringes on my 2nd Amendment right to keep and bear arms. We should instead focus our efforts in enforcing the current 20,000 gun laws that have been enacted and we should start making a difference by examining our failing mental health system. I spent over 6 years in the mental health field as a certified Rehab Specialist and I can tell you that we are not helping the people who need the most help. We instead kick them out the door to fend for themselves with no clear recovery plan. Such neglect has a detrimental effect on our society and from time to time we see the effects that a negligent system has on a person.

I ask all of you for some political courage. We all understand that this is a knee jerk reaction from a mass hysteria that is fueled by fear. Please take some time to realize what you are about to do. Every time something bad happens the people cry out for safety, and the government responds by taking rights away from good people. This is a big deal. You are contemplating the removal of individual rights. Do not play this by ear but instead analyze the situation, have a logical conversation then make a sound decision. Live up to your state's name. This Is the Constitution State; we should be creating an example of leadership and just governance for the whole nation.

Thank You

Rudi Bardhollari