

Esteemed Members of the Committee: Thank you ladies and gentlemen for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Susan Iseman and I live in Westport CT. I am here to show my full support of the legislative agenda put forth by CAGV. Since the massacre in Newton, I have once again wondered why. Why weapons and ammunition such as assault rifles and multiple magazine clips are available for purchase outside of the military. These assault weapons and multiple magazine ammunition belong only on battlefields. Their sole purpose is the fast killing of multiple persons. They do not belong in this state or any other state. They have no practical use other than mass murder and of course the profits of those that manufacture and sell them. I have yet to hear any commentary from advocates of these weapons of war that makes sense for their existence outside the battlefield. Those in favor of these weapons appear to create fear and condone a militia state that has no place among law abiding public, be they gun owners or not. Their lobbying cry reminds me of what the tobacco industry did when we tried to place limits on cigarettes. Remember when they said cigarettes weren't harmful? That cigarettes were glamorous? We all know what happened to that campaign. My friends in Europe and Australia do not understand why this country has such a high rate of gun deaths and I am ashamed to tell them that I have no answer that makes sense. The eyes of the world are on all of you today. I urge you to pass gun safety legislation quickly and unanimously. It is only one step in making Connecticut a safer place for all of us. We need to set an example to the nation that we are serious about gun safety and that we are NOT taking away the rights of responsible gun owners. Thank you.

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