

Dear Members of the CT General Assembly Task Force:

Thank you for your service to the great state of Connecticut.

I have closely read and studied the rankings of the Brady campaign. While I was comforted at some level that Connecticut ranked fifth in the nation, the honor is dubious because the standards in our country are so very low on gun safety. I hope that Connecticut would aspire to be a leader in this area and at least meet the standards of the states that have the strongest gun safety standards: California and now New York. I am embarrassed that it was taken so long for my own state to appropriately respond to the growing number of innocent victims of gun violence – particularly when so many were young lives were lost in our very own Newtown. I shudder with sadness.

I ask you to act now. This is not an issue of the second amendment. This is an issue of public safety. If you have not already, please read the attached articles from the New England Journal of Medicine and Journal of the American Medical Association on gun safety.

Please do what you can to ban high capacity clips, ban rapid fire assault weapons, increase taxes on guns and ammunition, support education campaigns to reduce gun violence, support routine primary healthcare education & gun safety counseling, require periodic safety inspections of firearms, close loopholes background check requirements in gun show and private sales, support smart guns with automatic security and locking devices, increase fees for gun licensing, support minimum age requirements for certain weapons, increase penalties for gun safety violations, support research on how to prevent gun violence, require gun license for purchase of ammunition, and support strong & active nonprofit advocacy focused on reducing gun violence.

We do not need guns in our schools. We need the dangerous weapons and ammunition to be less publicly available.

Be brave and do what is right to make me proud of living in the great state of Connecticut – support gun safety at all levels and in any way you can.

Thank you again for your service to our state government.

Sincerely,  
Ann Godzwon  
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