

Dear Representatives,

I am saddened by the tragic events in Newtown, Connecticut, but I believe that efforts to impose new restrictions on me and other lawful and responsible owners like me are misguided. Did you know that violent crime with firearms has declined since the Federal "assault weapons ban" expired in 2004?

Your focus should be on strengthening mental health care and improving the quality of data supporting NICs checks (National Instant Criminal Background Check System). Do NOT pass more gun laws; instead, work to enforce the more than 20,000 gun laws already on the books.

I witnessed nearly all 17 hours of the CT Gun Violence Prevention hearing 1/28/13. The overwhelming majority of testimony was against the proposed laws. I have not seen any statistics on testimony but, I would guess that 90-99% of the testimony was against the proposed laws. The people spoke and it was clear that all were horrified by events such as Newtown but, the proposed laws are wrong and unconstitutional. The majority of testimony called for enforcing current laws, mental health research, updating background checks.

I am your constituent and I vote. Please represent me.

Sincerely,

Steven C Stepina