

House Judiciary Committee,

I am writing in opposition to the intent of H7051 and H7216

If H7051 is to remain as written however, I could get behind it.

H7051 as proposed, states no gun ranges within a one-mile *circumference* of a K-12 school. Now that is a unique way to calculate distance from an object and in simpler terms also means no gun ranges within an approximately 840 foot radius of a school (Remember $C=2\pi r$?). I can agree that an outdoor range or any loud business, industry, or vehicle closer than that could be disruptive to learning but having references to decibel levels, school hours, or exemptions for indoor ranges could better guide this.

However, knowing that this distance is likely not the intension of representatives Potter, Boylan, Tanzi, Batista, Donovan, Caldwell, Cruz, Fogarty, McGaw, and Ajello, I cannot support future versions of this bill. Assuming I am right about their mistake, it proves this is another ill-thought-out, arbitrary overreach borne of a misguided fear of safe firearm use and gun owners. If a school is having a problem with a range (like the police range in Cranston discussed in years past), it should be handled on a local level.

I grew up in Foster in the 90's and early 2000's and if I heard gunshots at school, I couldn't tell you because it was as normal as hearing a car horn in the city for us. When it's something your conditioned to, it's not something that bothers you nor is disruptive at a *reasonable* distance. I can tell you; I remember teachers having to stop teaching when motorcycles went by, that was disruptive.

If legitimate, a law such as this would be based on research, have non-biased parameters, and accomplish its perceived goal, not a random circumference that was supposed to be large enough to close ranges.

Please hold these bills for further study and while I hope that this is left to cities and towns to deal with, please allow for a new hearing on H7051 if its wording is changed.

Thank you,

Samuel Vito- Foster, RI