

Roberta DiMezza

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To: House Judiciary Committee

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Alison Kaczmarek

36 Bayview Avenue

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March 11, 2024

RE: Support of House Bills H7373 and H7217

Chairman Craven and Members of the House Judiciary:

My name is Alison Kaczmarek, I live in East Greenwich and my Representative is Rep. Evan Shanley. I am a volunteer with the Rhode Island Coalition Against Gun Violence and Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense.

I support Rep. Caldwell's secure storage bill, 7373, and Rep. Knight's assault weapons ban, 7217.

Both of these bills have had strong public support for several years in Rhode Island and it is past time to pass them out of committee and onto the House floor for a full vote to passage. Rhode Islanders will be safer without weapons of war on our streets and with legal firearms stored safely and securely

As you know, gun violence is a public health epidemic in the US. No other developed country lives like we do, in fear of gun violence in our malls, movie theaters, places of worship, schools, restaurants and more. Research shows that states with stricter gun laws have lower levels of gun violence, and we must be doing all we can to keep our families and communities safe.

Gun violence is the #1 killer of children and teens in our country. How can we accept this and not do **everything** possible to end this shameful, senseless loss of life?

If more guns made us safer, we'd be the safest country in the world. Instead the US has a gun homicide rate that is 26 times higher than that of other high-income countries.

Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation. We know the majority of Rhode Islanders and the majority of legislators support these life saving bills. ***It is time to vote these bills out of committee and send them to the floor.***

Sincerely,

Alison Kaczmarek