

From: Henry Schultz

RE: Support H 7373, H 7217

Sent via email to HouseJudiciary@rilegislature.gov

To: Chair Craven and honorable members of the House Judiciary Committee:

My name is Henry Schultz, I live in Barrington and my Rep is Jason Knight. I am a junior at Barrington High School that lives with the fear that a school shooting could happen at any time. The secure storage bill will help keep a barrier between someone wanting to do harm and actually acting on it. In addition, I see no reason why someone outside of the military should own a military style assault weapon, other than to hurt as many people as possible in a short amount of time. Why would this committee not want to prevent this from happening? The majority of Rhode Islanders and Representatives want this. It is the committee's duty to send these bills to the house floor for a vote.

Specifically, I urge you to prioritize support for:

- H 7373(Caldwell), which would require require all firearms to be stored securely when not under the control of their owner or another authorized user and promote efforts to educate gun owners, parents, and students about the benefits of secure gun storage; and
- H 7217 (Knight), which would prohibit the future manufacture, sale, transfer, purchase, and possession of assault weapons, while providing a pathway for current owners of assault weapons to keep the ones they currently have.

These bills will reduce the spread of exceptionally deadly, military-style firearms – which are commonplace in mass shootings – in our communities and also save lives by preventing firearm suicide, gun theft, unintentional shootings, and unauthorized access to guns by helping ensure that secure storage becomes the norm across Rhode Island. Please pass common-sense gun safety bills out of committee and to the House floor with a recommendation for passage.

Sincerely,

Henry Schultz