

From: Peter Kaczmarek

36 Bayview Ave.

East Greenwich, RI 02818

RE: Support of House Bills H7373 and H7217

Chairman Craven and Members of the House Judiciary:

My name is Peter Kaczmarek, I live in East Greenwich, my Senator is Mark McKenney and my Representative is Evan Shanley. I am a volunteer with the Rhode Island Coalition Against Gun Violence.

As a Rhode Island business owner, I'm here in support of Rep. Caldwell's secure storage bill, 7373, and Rep. Knight's assault weapons ban, 7217.

I support these bills because 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.

It's ridiculous that in a rich country like the USA, gun violence is the #1 killer of children and teens in our country. **That is beyond unacceptable.**

**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,

Peter Kaczmarek  
East Greenwich, RI