

## Roberta DiMezza

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**From:** Jesse Belcher <downhilldude02@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 23, 2024 5:37 AM  
**To:** House Judiciary Committee  
**Subject:** S2202, H7098, H7570

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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Ladies and Gentlemen of the RI House Judiciary Committee,

I'm writing you today to inform you that the following bills are set for a hearing with the House Judiciary on May 23, 2024:

S2202 - Safe storage of firearms  
H7098 - Exemption of police from the 7-day waiting period  
H7570 - Allowing police to purchase and use silencers/suppressors

These bills are all facially unconstitutional. S2202 penalizes moral, peaceable Rhode Islanders for the actions of criminals who otherwise wouldn't care about laws. Stealing, especially stealing guns, is already illegal. All you're doing by implementing this legislation is creating another pitfall for citizens that are exercising their rights under the United States Constitution and the Rhode Island Constitution (both of which would be violated by these bills if passed).

H7098 and H7570 both only serve to give the state government more power and do nothing to further the rights of the People, which is literally the whole reason you and your colleagues exist. By giving more power to the government, you take it away from the People. This is an absolute atrocity as it's an assault on the Republic itself. Your job is to secure and protect the rights and liberties of those you represent, not to trample on them with legislation that turns peaceable citizens into criminals.

None of these bills will pass the "Bruen" standard of the text of the 2nd Amendment and the history of firearms regulation around the time of the ratification of the Bill of Rights. If any of these bills make it out of your committee to the floor for a vote, it will be because you have abandoned your oath to support and defend the Constitution. I hope collectively you will do the right thing and preserve the right of your constituents to keep and bear arms without interference from tyrannical influence.

Rhode Island Constitution, Section 22. Right to bear arms. The right of the people to keep and bear arms SHALL NOT BE INFRINGED. Read it again and then tattoo it on your brain, Ladies and Gentlemen. Thank you for your time and attention to this disturbing and unsettling matter.

V/R  
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"Stand your ground, don't fire unless fired upon, but if they mean to have a war, let it begin here."

-Captain John Parker, April 19th, 1775, Battle of Lexington