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From: Ramsey Davis <RamseyDavis@outlook.com>
Sent: Monday, February 3, 2025 3:55 PM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Cc: Rep. Boylan, Jennifer
Subject: RI House Bill number H5130

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Dear Chair Craven and members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Ramsey Davis, and I live in Cranston. Thank you for reading my testimony.

I am a volunteer with the *RI Coalition Against Gun Violence* and *RI Chapter of Moms Demand Action*, and am writing in support of Rep Boylan's Bill number 5130.

Ballistics matching should become a universal method for tracing crime guns. It has been used successfully here in RI, to convict the killer of Miya Brophy-Baerman, by tracing the ghost gun used in the crime back to the murderer. With 23 firearm homicides recorded statewide in 2023 [Rhode Island Department of Health], our communities urgently need modern investigative tools.

We must do all we can to confront the scourge of gun violence in Rhode Island and convict the perpetrators of gun crimes. New York's integrated ballistics system helped resolve 78% of gun-related homicides in 2022. [Bureau of Justice Statistics]

Ghost gun seizures in Providence increased 300% since 2020 [Providence PD Annual Report], making ballistic matching crucial for tracing un-serialized weapons.

Rhode Island State Crime Lab's NIBIN integration since 2019 provides existing framework for this expansion. This bill complements regional ballistics sharing pacts with MA and CT.

This bill also mirrors precedent set in *Maryland v. King* affirming DNA collection as legitimate police procedure.

Gun violence costs Rhode Island taxpayers \$386 million annually in medical and judicial expenses. [Giffords Law Center]

I respectfully urge you to send Bill 5130 to the full House with a recommendation for passage.

Thank you,
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