

Anabella Mayorga

From: Albert Bowers <afbowersjr@verizon.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 1:22 PM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Subject: Written Testimony - Oppose House Bill - 5436

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Hello,

Concerning:

House Bill No. [5436](#)

(Governor/Secretary of State/General Treasurer/Attorney General/Lieutenant Governor)

BY Knight, Caldwell, Boylan, Speakman, McEntee, Ajello, Kazarian, Craven, Dawson, Felix

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- RHODE ISLAND ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN ACT OF 2025 {LC1181/Act of 2025.})

I am writing to document my opposition to House Bill no. 5436 - Rhode Island Assault Weapons Ban Act of 2025. I am a member of a Rhode Island Sportsman's Rod and Gun club. In addition, I support the activities and people of the RI Fish & Wildlife Division. I attend public DEM Fish and Wildlife meetings to keep up to date with RI F & W laws and activities.

The Second Amendment, along with all the amendments doesn't actually confer the right, but notes that it already exists and directs the government to not infringe upon it.

As you read it, it doesn't say anything like "the rights *hereby granted* to keep and bear ..." it says *the right to keep and bear...*" which reads like the right already exists.

Why is it important? Because it codifies in the founding document of the country that the right exists, and that it may not be infringed. It is one of the bedrocks upon which our government is founded.

What is the oath that elected officials take?

"I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic, that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same: that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion, and I will well and faithfully discharge ..."

I oppose efforts to impose gun restrictions on law-abiding citizens, and I do not feel more gun control laws are the answer to the problems confronting our nation. Many gun control efforts threaten the rights of law-abiding Americans while criminals intent on hurting themselves or others continue to ignore the law. Gun control efforts hinder the ability of Americans to protect

themselves and their families. I believe tougher enforcement of existing laws is a more effective means of addressing crime.

Albert Bowers Jr.
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