

Anabella Mayorga

From: Bethany Heaney <bethea22@cox.net>
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2025 12:26 PM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Subject: Weapons Ban - Reject it!

Good afternoon --

I, too, am a MOM -- a mother of two from Exeter, RI -- who has taken multiple firearms safety, CPR, and all sorts of other firearms-related classes from law enforcement officers AND have a carry permit in RI, and Utah (30 states) and CT soon. I am a proponent of gun safety and the 2nd Amendment. I oppose gun violence and believe in preventing it through any and all means other than banning guns from responsible law-abiding owners.

I also believe this legislation is being introduced for political gain vs. public safety, such as to benefit the gubernatorial aspirations of more than one of our elected officials.

Most importantly, it is a blatant attack on a constitutional right, and its passage will incur huge unnecessary legal and administrative expenses to RI taxpayers when it is eventually and certainly challenged and overturned by higher courts.

H-5436 won't save lives—it will disarm responsible Rhode Islanders who've passed strict training and background checks. Is this really about safety, or control?

I ask that you vote against this legislation to show RI'ers you are hearing your constituents, committed to upholding the US Constitution (the vow you took when elected), and protecting the rights of ALL Americans.

The Second Amendment was put in place to support the First Amendment. Will that soon be under attack as well?

Thank you,
Beth Heaney, Exeter, RI

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From: Bethany Heaney <bethea22@cox.net>
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2025 4:59 PM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Subject: HB 5436, HB 5443, HB 5130, and HB 5069

Good afternoon,

I am writing this testimony in opposition to HB 5436, HB 5443, HB 5130, and HB 5069 and request that these bills be opposed by those who have taken an oath to uphold the Constitution of the United States. These bills, intended as direct challenges to the Second Amendment of our Constitution, have no place on the floor of the House to begin with.

These bills infringe on every Rhode Islander's Constitutional rights by punishing and criminalizing law-abiding citizens for lawful possession of firearms, and by making the process to obtain carry permits for self-defense and sport more difficult (in some cases impossible). Vice President Harris, when questioned about firearms ownership last year, readily and proudly admitted to owning a semi-automatic pistol for her own self-defense.

In addition:

- Millions in tax revenue from RI gun shops, training facilities, and all other firearms-related businesses will need to be found elsewhere.
- Firearms-related business could face closure, resulting in job losses.
- Litigation costs to overturn passed legislation will no doubt be born by Rhode Island taxpayers.
- These bills are over-reaching and statistics do not support their goals.

Rhode Island's citizens deserve representation that works to defend, not diminish, their Constitutional rights. I am requesting that your members vote as patriots to protect vs. systematically destroy our Constitutional rights.

Thank you for your consideration,

Beth Heaney