

Roberta DiMezza

From: jd@davenportconstinc.com
Sent: Saturday, March 22, 2025 12:01 PM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Subject: Chairman Representative Robert E. Craven, RE: H-5436 Assault Weapons Ban 2025: Against Passage

Dear Chairman Craven and House Judiciary Committee,

My name is Jeffrey Davenport a law-abiding Rhode Island citizen and gun owner. I strongly oppose H-5436, the Assault Weapons Ban of 2025. This bill unfairly targets firearms that I, and thousands of others, have legally owned for years for self-defense, sport, and recreation. It does nothing to address crime while punishing responsible citizens like me. I urge you to vote against this overreaching legislation and protect our constitutional rights. I am sure you have heard the phrase before that if you outlaw guns the only people who will have guns are the outlaws. This is an absolutely truth. Do you think the outlaws or the mentally ill people will be the ones registering their grandfathered firearms. The answer to that is no as well. So while this bill unfairly limits my capacity to enjoy the rights that the second amendment affords me it does nothing to address the use of firearms in illegal activity.

I am a home owner with a family to protect. I am a business owner with employees to protect. What this bill will do is severely affect my ability to protect my family, friends, and employees who are on my property.

Firearms wear out and break down. They do not last forever. So if you are thinking I can just use the firearms I own now you are wrong. This bill will not allow me to replace worn or broken firearm. This bill will not allow me to sell a firearm to purchase a newer model or upgrade. This bill will not allow me my constitutional given rights!

What about the people who currently do not own firearms but have plans to purchase some in the future? Once again this bill infringes on their rights to bare arms. Law abiding citizens should not be punished for the acts of outlaws or the mentally ill. It is simply not right and unconstitutional.

I agree that something must be done about the mass shootings. However, this bill does not address that problem. Taking the right to bare arms away from law abiding citizens will not do anything to decrease the frequency of mass shootings. So in closing I urge you vote against this overreaching bill and protect our rights.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Davenport