

Roberta DiMezza

From: Michael Manning <ripatsfan188@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 21, 2025 3:36 PM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Subject: Oppose H5436

Committee members,

I am writing to you today to oppose House bill H5436.

Rhode Island is one of the safest if not the safest state (https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/sosmap/firearm_mortality/firearm.htm) in the union for gun violence. Stomping on the rights of law-abiding citizens is not going to change that. Gun violence is a horrible thing. However, firearms are not the issue. It is the evil behind the firearm that needs attention.

This bill would ban virtually any semi automatic firearm in common use today here in the state as well as the entire country. It would also create a registry which would be in violation of state (RI General Law § 11-47-41) and federal law.

The firearm industry also has a significant economic impact in Rhode Island. A report put out by the National Shooting Sports Foundation using data from 2023 states that the firearms industry creates over 500 good paying jobs in the state, over 350 million in economic activity, as well as over 33 million in property, income and sales tax. It also helps fund the DEM.

It is the sworn duty of our elected officials to protect the rights of the citizens. Not to bend to the whims of special interests from outside of Rhode Island who are only interested in disarming the people.

"A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed". December 15, 1791.

I thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Michael Manning

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