## Anabella Mayorga

From: NATALIE ROJAS <agrinch@cox.net>
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2025 7:32 PM
To: House Judiciary Committee

**Subject:** H5436

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Completed

Hello,

My name is Peter Rojas I am a Rhode Island Resident and I strongly OPPOSE the following antigun bills: H5436, H5654, H5889, and H5890

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed weapons legislation, specifically the ban on assault weapons. As a law-abiding citizen and a believer in the Second Amendment right to bear arms, I believe such a ban would be a grave overreach of government power and would have a detrimental impact on the ability of responsible citizens to defend themselves and their families.

This overreach is spelled out in Rhode Island Constitution section 11-47-41 Weapons: **§ 11-47-41. Government firearm registration prohibited.** 

No government agency of this state or its political subdivisions shall keep or cause to be kept any list or register of privately owned firearms or any list or register of the owners of those firearms; provided, that the provisions of this section shall not apply to firearms which have been used in committing any crime of violence, nor to any person who has been convicted of a crime of violence."

I understand the concerns surrounding gun violence, but I believe that banning these weapons will not solve the problem. Instead, it will simply disarm law-abiding citizens while criminals will continue to obtain these weapons through illegal means. Furthermore, such a ban would create a dangerous situation where criminals are the only ones with access to these weapons, leaving law-abiding citizens vulnerable.

Further legislation will have little to no effect on criminals illegally using guns to commit crimes. No criminal is going to follow these laws, and will still obtain "assault weapons" the same way they do now, through the black market. The only thing legislation will accomplish is disarming private law-abiding citizens of their protection and turning

them into felons, as many would rather risk prosecution rather than surrender or register.

The Second Amendment guarantees the right of the people to keep and bear arms, and this right is not limited to any particular type of firearm. The government should not be able to arbitrarily decide which weapons are acceptable and which are not. I urge you to oppose any legislation that would infringe upon this fundamental right.

I believe that the focus should be on addressing the root causes of gun violence, such as mental health issues and poverty, rather than simply restricting the rights of lawabiding citizens. We need to work together to create a society where everyone feels safe, but that does not mean we should sacrifice our fundamental rights in the process.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I urge you to vote against any legislation that would infringe upon the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens.

I am in strong support of:

HB 5935 - Weapons – Concealed Carry Reform and Out-of-State Permit Recognition: Expands firearm rights to recognize out of state carry permits, authorizes weapons carried during emergency evacuation and establishes an appeal process for permit denied.

HB 5936 – Weapons – Review and Appeal Process for Handgun Permits: Provides the review and appeal process for individuals applying for a permit or license to carry a handgun with the licensing authority or attorney general.

Thank you.

Peter Rojas

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