

Ariana Costa

From: Ren <renwhitaker@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2025 1:38 PM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Subject: Roberta DiMezza: Please accept this written testimony for the Gun Control and Assault Weapons bill hearing Weds March 26, 2025 at 2pm

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Roberta DiMezza: Please accept this written testimony for the Gun Control and Assault Weapons bill hearing Weds March 26, 2025 at 2pm.

Thank you. -Ren Whitaker, Newport RI

Rhode Island is small. We know each other here. I'll probably pass by some of you at Whole Foods or Stop & Shop sometime this week. We owe it to ourselves and our citizenry to protect each other from harm. For those of you who remember The Station nightclub fire of 2002, any senseless loss of life, or multiple lives, shakes our entire state profoundly.

Because Rhode Island is so small, and because we all eventually come to know each other and each other's families over the years, we also have it easy. We can far more easily come together to take the simple steps necessary to keep each other safe.

Let's continue on that path. Let's take the simple steps that the vast majority of Rhode Islanders approve of, and let's pass reasonable gun reform now. I don't want another lockdown at Roger's High School. I don't want my nieces at Hamilton to tell me how scary the lockdown exercises were at Hamilton School in North Kingstown.

Pass these basic reform bills today, and you WILL SAVE LIVES in the future. It's that simple.

Let's keep our kids, and ourselves, SAFE.

Thank you,
-Ren Whitaker, Newport RI