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R.I. General Assembly

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Subject: Rhode Island Assault Weapons Ban of 2025 – H5436

I oppose the ban entirely for the following reasons. The Rhode Island Constitution, Section 22 gives the citizens of this state “the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed”.

What is the meaning of infringed? According to Webster’s New World dictionary. Infringe is to break (a law or pact), infringe on (or upon) to encroach on (the rights of others).

R.I. General Law 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 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.

History has shown us registration of semi-auto firearms is a precursor to total confiscation. This is where it starts.

Countries like Australia, China, and the United Kingdom and others have confiscated their citizens firearms after registration.

Here are some stats on home burglaries and home invasions in some of these countries.

Australia (2022) 151,200 house breaks with 70% of these residential homes and 30% commercial property. China (no year given) estimated to be 98M home invasions. United Kingdom (2024) 238,893 home burglaries this is about 4.14 per 1000 people. Brazil (2021) 1.5 million home invasions. New Zealand (2019) 49,564 home burglaries. Japan (2003) 190,473 home invasions. Germany (2023) 77,819 home burglaries. Norway (2022) 105,000 reported burglaries and robberies. Russia (2021) 733,100 home burglaries. Canada (2023) 130,748 home burglaries. Then there is Venezuela, following El Salvador in 2017 for all categories of crime with violent home invasions. Venezuela citizens are forbidden from firearm ownership unless they are attached to the government in some way. United States (2019) had 1.5M home invasions.

So, after the state government and/or the federal government take away all our semi-automatic firearms away are “we the people” to get personal police protection as our local and national politicians? Not likely. In 1989 the US Supreme court decision in *DeShaney v. Winnebago County Department of Social Services* ruled that the police have no duty to protect individuals.

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Stats [www. Statista.com](https://www.Statista.com)