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To:	House Judiciary Committee
Subject:	Opposition to proposed gun legislation
Follow Up Flag:	Follow up
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Good morning Chairman Craven and House Judiciary Committee Members

I am writing to express my opposition to the present gun legislation being proposed, in particular HB5436. This bill represents a significant government overreach that is being haphazardly done in the face of a <u>codified</u> constitutional right. I am quite certain that there are members among you who would not hesitate to stand up for rights that we have as citizens that are not even mentioned in the constitution. Therefore, it seems quite inconsistent for a legislature to casually pass laws to limit another right, especially when it is specifically written in both the US and State Constitutions.

For the lawyers on this committee, you are without a doubt opening the state up to substantial litigation, which, in light of the Supreme Court precedent, is likely going to end up with you on the losing end. What's the cost? The cost is a significant monetary cost to the state and an infringement of rights and significant hardship on the lives of the state's legal, safe, and law abiding gun owners to which you will likely agree are the vast majority. Again, if this was a law banning abortion, the legislature would not hesitate to carefully scrutinize such a law. However, I get the feeling that this is not getting the same deserved scrutiny. I would ask you to search yourselves of the inconsistency in this regard.

There is no question that we all can agree with the ultimate goals of harm reduction and keeping dangerous weapons out of the hands of individuals who will use them for ill and evil means. However, no law you pass is going to prevent an ill and evil mind from enacting the harm they wish to pursue. Thus, this goal is better addressed by attacking the root of the problem, mental health issues and punishment of violent offenders in this state. I am fully on board with that and would suggest that is the proper direction for the legislature to head to address this harm. However, the present bill does not meet this goal. The evil mind will still be there and will not comply with the laws you pass. Instead, the law abiding citizens will and will be the only ones to feel the bite of this law. Please consider the law abiding citizens who are protected under these codified rights when you vote.

I thank you for your attention to this note and for your consideration. I would ask that you approach this issue with critical thought and not substitute thoughts, ideas, and legal issues for emotional reactions.

Very truly yours,

Stefano Famiglietti