

Ariana Costa

From: Suzanne Ellis Wernevi <suzanne.ellis@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2025 8:39 AM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Cc: Rep. Ajello, Edith H.; admin@ricagv.org
Subject: Testimony in support of regulating assault weapons / H5436

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Dear Chairman Craven and members of the Judiciary Committee,
I am writing to support Representative Knight's bill H5436 Regulating Assault Weapons. I am re-submitting the testimony I submit every year – the only thing that changes while these bills languish in committee are the ages of my kids and the number of people in the United States killed by assault weapons.

I am the mother of two school children. When twenty first graders and their teachers were murdered in Sandy Hook in 2012, my son was six months old. He is now entering eighth grade, and in that time, **gun violence has become the leading cause of death for children in the United States.** This is unacceptable. We don't have to live like this. Our children don't have to die like this. We can fix this.

This committee has made meaningful progress on gun safety. But the job is not done. **I am among the 70% of Rhode Islanders that support regulating assault weapons, and I demand action.**

After 12 years, the citizens of Rhode Island have the right to ask, *what are you waiting for?* It is time for a vote.

Thank you for your time and for your consideration of this important legislation. Please vote these bills out of committee and send it to the Floor with a recommendation of passage.

Suzanne Wernevi

Providence / Constituent of Rep. Edie Ajello