

## Roberta DiMezza

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**From:** Tony Morettini <tmorettini@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 22, 2025 2:11 PM  
**To:** House Judiciary Committee  
**Subject:** Support H5436

Chair Craven and Members of the Judiciary Committee:

My name is Tony Morettini and I live in Bristol.

I am writing to urge you to support H 5436 (Knight), the "Assault Weapons Ban," which would prohibit the future manufacture, sale, transfer, purchase, and possession of assault weapons, while providing a pathway for current owners of assault weapons to keep the ones they currently have with a one time \$25 per person registration fee. This bill will reduce the spread of these exceptionally deadly, military-style firearms – which have been commonplace in the deadliest mass shootings in our history.

And we can no longer use "RI is one of the safest states for gun violence in the country" as an excuse for not passing this legislation. In January, a man in West Greenwich shot his pregnant wife and two children before shooting himself with an Assault Weapon - an M4, the NATO version of the M16. He purchased the weapon legally. This horrific tragedy was a mass shooting with an assault weapon. We are not immune. Might he have used a different weapon? We'll never know. What we do know is the Chief of Police was shaken, and called the scene "gruesome," a common descriptor when an Assault Weapon is used. They disembowel and dismember. Exactly as designed.

Please pass H5436 out of Committee and out to the House floor with a recommendation for passage.

Sincerely,

Tony Morettini