

Ariana Costa

From: Tony Morettini <tmorettini@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2025 1:40 PM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Subject: Support 5252 and 5443

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Dear Chair Craven and Members of the Judiciary Committee;

My name is Tony Morettini, and I live in Bristol. I am writing in support of Bills 5652 and 5443.

5652 increases the penalties for the use of a firearm in commission of a Hate Crime. There are almost 70 Hate Crimes committed in the US *per day*. Attacks committed because someone is merely different than you are unconscionable. Add in the availability of a firearm, and they often turn deadly. We must do all we can to deter hate, and hate crimes in all their forms. Additional penalties for use of a firearm will help do that.

5443 allows for a person who knows they are often incapable to make that decision on their own because of disability, to *voluntarily* surrender their right to buy or own a firearm. Most of us agree mental health problems contribute to firearm injuries and deaths. This Bill would help prevent some of that from happening, by helping someone save others from themselves. Over half the states in the US have a law like this. Let's join them.

So I urge you to vote yes on 5652 and 5443, and send these Bills out to the Floor.

Thank you,

Tony Morettini