

Roberta DiMezza

From: Roberta Judge <rjudge97@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2023 10:15 PM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Cc: Brandonpotterri@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony in Support of H-5367

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Roberta DiMezza
Judiciary Committee Clerk

I am writing in support of bill H-5367 regarding shooting ranges not being within a one mile circumference of schools. Truthfully, I am dumbfounded that a bill needed to be written regarding this matter. I have lived in the Western Hills neighborhood of Cranston, RI since 2002, within a .25 mile distance from the Cranston Police Academy Training Complex (A.K.A-municipal shooting range.) I am aware that it is being utilized by many more police officers than it was intended to serve when it was built. I am also aware that it is yielding much revenue for the city and it is unclear where the money is being spent. After having three children where I currently live, they have all spent their whole education hearing gunshots during school hours (George J. Peters, Western Hills and Cranston High School West) with the exception of the few months during the winter when the shooting range is closed. Two of the schools are across the street from the shooting range. It is ludicrous to me that any logically thinking adult would endorse that this is a healthy learning environment for children to spend 13 years of their life. My children expressed to me that many times when the shooting starts, their teacher's voice becomes louder to speak above the noise coming from the shooting range or the students will not be able to hear them. Additionally, many children have learning and sensory concerns and/or attentional difficulties that make them even more irritated by this type of noise than the average student. Please pass this bill to ensure that future generations of students are not exposed to toxic learning environments and grow up with the notion that it is normal to be educated and play in the neighborhood amidst the constant stream of gunshot noise pollution.

Roberta M. Judge
Parent of three Cranston Schools students and a resident of Western Hills Neighborhood