## **Roberta DiMezza**

From:	Theresa Schimmel <terryschimmel@yahoo.com></terryschimmel@yahoo.com>
Sent:	Sunday, March 10, 2024 8:58 AM
To:	House Judiciary Committee
Cc:	Teresa Tanzi
Subject:	written testimony
Follow Up Flag:	Follow up
Flag Status:	Completed

To Chairman Craven and Members of the House Judiciary:

My name is Theresa Schimmel. I live in South Kingstown and my Representative is Teresa Tanzi. I am a volunteer for both the RICAGV and Moms Demand Action. I am writing to you in support of Rep. Caldwell's Secure Storage bill 7373 and Rep. Knight's Assault Weapons Ban, 7217. Both bills will provide more safety to our Rhode Island communities. Research shows that states with similar laws have lower levels of gun violence. Presently gun violence is a public health epidemic in the United States and is the #1 killer of children. We are one of the few states in the northeast that allow purchase of assault weapons. I believe this puts us at a high risk of a mass shooting like the ones we've seen throughout the country, most recently in Lewiston, Maine. Do we want to wait until that happens to act! I think not.

Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation. We know that the majority of Rhode Islanders and the majority of legislators support these life saving bills. It is time to vote these bills out of committee and send them to the floor.

Sincerely, Theresa Schimmel 29 Asa Pond Rd. Wakefield, RI 02879