

House Judiciary Committee

3/12/2024

Re: Testimony in Opposition to House Bill No. 7217 titled "Rhode Island Assault Weapons Ban of 2024"

Dear Chairperson Craven and members of the House Judiciary Committee:

I am Gina Halliwell from District 2.

I oppose House Bill No. 7217 titled "Rhode Island Assault Weapons Ban of 2024"

I oppose House Bill No. 7217 because there is no evidence that either state or federal "assault weapon" bans have or will reduce the chance of criminals being deterred from their acts of violence. If anything, this gives the criminals the upper hand. They prey on and victimize the public, and if an armed citizen such as myself would like a fighting chance to protect my family against a violent criminal who is armed with high-capacity rifles and pistols, then I should be allowed to own effective weaponry to defend my family should that time ever arise.

I urge you to vote against bill No. 7217.

Thank you for your time and the opportunity to speak against bill No. 7217. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Gina Halliwell

District 2