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From: Danny Bunte <danbunte@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2024 5:04 PM
To: House Judiciary Committee; Senate Judiciary Committee
Subject: Written testimony for Gun control legislation hearings

To all RI House and Senate members

I am a 52 year old lifelong RI resident as is my entire family. I am a husband and father and have spent my entire working career researching and making medications to help ensure patients receive the critical care they need and yet here I am once again regretfully forced to take time away from my family to pen this letter to you, the representatives of the people of the State of RI.

I am writing in strong objection to the persistent attempts at these unconstitutional gun control measures being debated in both the House and Senate, specifically **HB7217**, HB7268, HB7269, HB7373, HB7829, SB2202, SB2218, SB2219, SB2653, SB2734. I object to any politicians telling me what I do or do not need, what I can and how often I can purchase a firearm, that I need to take a test and then continue to retest to exercise a right, or how to store what I own in my home. As a law abiding citizen, all of this is my business, not yours.

We are free people governed by the Bill of Rights, not the bill of needs. Perhaps all politicians should have to take a civics test before and again every two years while you are in office prior to performing your duties? How about you are allowed to speak your mind only once per month? Even better, let's make everyone have the same testing requirements before they can vote. I bet that would stop a lot of this. Sounds ridiculous? It should. This is exactly what some of you are suggesting of my rights.

These proposed bills are in blatant violation of the 2nd Amendment of the US Constitution, Section 22 of the RI Constitution, and recent rulings by the US Supreme Court in Heller and Bruen. Those decisions further demonstrate that your attempts to deprive the citizens of our rights is not allowed. In addition, those of you proposing and supporting these bills are in direct violation of 5 US Code 3331 and Section 3 of RI Constitution of the solemn oaths that you all took when being elected to represent us.

- "All general officers shall take the following engagement before they act in their respective offices, to wit: You being by the free vote of the electors of this state of Rhode Island, elected unto the place of do solemnly swear (or, affirm) to be true and faithful unto this state, and to support the Constitution of this state and of the United States; that you will faithfully and impartially discharge all the duties of your aforesaid office to the best of your abilities, according to law: So help you God. [Or: This affirmation you make and give upon the peril of the penalty of perjury.]"

Does your oath of office mean nothing? "Shall not be infringed" is crystal clear. The 2nd Amendment does not contain a "but", "however", or any other clause that would attempt to justify your narrative to deprive us of our rights.

Facts do not care about your feelings. Feelings make us less safe and less free.

These bills (infringements) are a cut and paste of all the other Democrat led state's push to "end gun violence". They will do none of the sort. Instead, the bills proposed will be an outright ban on nearly