Ariana Costa

Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2025 4:19 PM **To:** House Judiciary Committee

Subject: oppose the statewide ban on Semi-Automatic Firearms.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Completed

Dear Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

I am writing to express my **strong opposition** to several bills scheduled for the March 26th hearings that I believe infringe upon the rights of responsible gun owners in Rhode Island.

HB 5436 – Rhode Island Assault Weapons Ban Act of 2025

Rhode Island's HB 5436 is yet another blatant attack on the rights of law-abiding gun owners, punishing responsible citizens while doing nothing to stop actual criminals. This sweeping ban on semi-automatic firearms is an unconstitutional overreach that directly violates the Second Amendment and strips individuals of their fundamental right to self-defense. Law-abiding gun owners are not the problem—violent criminals are—and yet, instead of targeting those who break the law, the state is hell-bent on disarming the very people who follow it. This kind of legislation is driven by fear-mongering and political grandstanding, not facts or reason. Semi-automatic firearms are the most common self-defense weapons in the country, used by millions of responsible Americans for home protection, hunting, and sport shooting. Banning them under the guise of "safety" is nothing more than an authoritarian power grab that leaves good people defenseless while criminals—who, by definition, do not obey gun laws—continue to prey on the innocent. Rhode Island politicians should be ashamed of this disgraceful attempt to trample on constitutional rights and turn law-abiding citizens into criminals overnight.

Sincerely,

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