

## Roberta DiMezza

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**From:** Herbert Larkin <larkinh@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 26, 2025 7:27 AM  
**To:** House Judiciary Committee  
**Subject:** Testimony: Against Passage of H-5436

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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Representative Robert E Craven and House Judiciary Committee

Regarding the upcoming vote on H-5436.

After a carefully reading of H-5436 I can only conclude this is bill is essentially an attempt to ban/confiscation of all firearms in Rhode Island.

Even the bills name is misleading - "Rhode Island Assault Weapons Ban Act of 2025". The term "assault weapon" is used to promote the idea that these weapons are exceptionally dangerous and are weapons of war. Currently true "assault weapons" are true automatic weapons. But the salient point is that an assault weapon can be anything used to do harm to another. These weapons may include fire arms, edged weapons (knives), blunt instruments, and hands and feet. The FBI ranks murder weapons as #1 firearms (hand guns), #2 knives, #3 hands, feet, fists. #4 rifles.

While H-5436 appears to apply mostly to long guns, many of its provisions also apply to modern hand guns. Especially semiautomatic hand guns.

A bit of history:

Lincoln shot with a single shot derringer.

McKinley shot with a .32 pistol

Garfield shot with a pistol

Archduke F. Ferdinand shot with a 9mm pistol

RFK shot with a .22 caliber pistol

John Lennon, Mayor Willie Mascone, Harvey Milk, Indira Gandhi, Lee Harvey Oswald, Mahatma Gandhi all shot with .38 caliber pistols.

Reagan shot with a .22 caliber pistol.

In short, this bill is an affront to the 2nd Amendment of the US constitution and to all law abiding citizens of Rhode Island who legally own firearms and use them responsibly for lawful purposes, such as hunting, target/sport shooting and self defense.

I urge you and the committee to vote against H-5436

Sincerely,

Herbert E Larkin  
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