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March 26, 2025

RE: Support of House Bill H5436

Dear Chairman Craven and Members of the Judiciary Committee:

My name is Julie Erickson and I live in Kingston and my Representative is Carol Hagan McEntee.

I am here tonight in support of Representative Knight's assault weapons ban bill, H5436.

This bill will reduce the number of deadly, military-style firearms in our communities and it will keep us safer! I have friends in France who will not visit me because there is so much gun violence in our streets. This bill will help reduce the most deadly of the types of violence these firearms have produced in America. As you know "from 2015 to 2022, mass shootings with four or more people killed where an assault weapon was used resulted in nearly six times as many people shot, more than twice as many people killed, and 23 times as many people wounded on average compared to those that did not involve the use of one." **Everytown for Gun Safety**

Thank you for your time and for your consideration of this important legislation. **Rhodes Islanders deserve to live free from gun violence**, and getting these weapons of war off our streets is an important and long overdue step! **It is time to vote this bill out of committee and send it to the House Floor with a recommendation of passage.**

Sincerely,
Julie Erickson