

**From:** Kris Gallucci <krisgallucci2u@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 26, 2025 12:49 PM  
**To:** House Judiciary Committee  
**Subject:** Gun regulation

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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Dear Chairman Craven and House Judiciary Committee Members,

My name is Kristen Gallucci. I am a resident of Scituate, Rhode Island and am writing this testimony to voice my strongest possible opposition to HB 5436, HB 5443, HB 5130, and HB 5069.

I am a gun owner, and I have a right to own a gun in the United States. The law-abiding Rhode Islanders will be affected negatively if this legislation is passed. I ask you to stand up for the rights of people who legally purchase fire arms. Individuals who are using guns to commit a crime are not abiding by any of the laws. This is a pointless act by the anti-gun population to make themselves feel safer, but in reality, this will do nothing except impeded upon the rights of others. Please vote against these items.

**1. Illegal Firearm Registry**

H5436 (page 6, lines 28-34) mandates a gun owner registry, which is explicitly prohibited under Rhode Island law (Title 11, Chapter 11-47, Section 11-47-41). This statute forbids any government agency from maintaining a list of privately owned firearms or their owners, except in cases involving violent crimes or convicted individuals. Forcing law-abiding citizens to register their firearms—or face felony charges after 90 days—is a clear violation of state law and an arbitrary abuse of power.

**2. Ineffective and Overbroad Feature Bans**

The bill's feature-based restrictions lack any basis in reducing firearm lethality and instead rely on fear-driven misconceptions that serve only to hinder the ability of disabled firearms owners to operate their own firearms without exacerbating existing injuries or disabilities. Consider the following:

- **Weight Restrictions (>50 oz):** This ostensibly targets pistol variants of rifles (e.g., AR-15, AK-47) but also bans many common revolvers and semi-automatic handguns (e.g., .44 Magnum, .50 cal) designed to mitigate recoil.

This contradicts claims that only specific firearms are affected.

- **Threaded Barrels:** These are being targeted for their association with suppressors (already unreasonably illegal in RI) but are also used for

compensators, which reduce recoil for new or recoil-sensitive shooters (such as aforementioned disabled firearm owners). Nearly all semi-automatic rifles and shotguns (via choke tubes) feature threaded barrels, making this a de facto ban on most firearms for no justifiable reason.

- **Shrouds:** Defined (page 2, lines 22-24) as anything encircling the barrel to protect the non-trigger hand, this vague language bans virtually every semi-automatic rifle—since a handguard is essential for safe operation. These features are also on every bolt action rifle and even black powder rifles, which

typically use far more powerful cartridges than found in handguns and so-called "assault weapons".

- **Magazine Placement & Buffer Tubes:** Most semi-automatic and many bolt-action rifles accept magazines outside the pistol grip. Buffer tubes, critical to AR-15 function, are also targeted, alongside stocks or braces on countless other firearms.

These restrictions do not enhance safety; they criminalize standard, widely owned firearms based on arbitrary traits.

\*I hope you and I both know that there are no publicly available firearms out there that could possibly be used by any military force in existence as actual “assault rifles”, which require not only high power, but also rapid, full-automatic rates of fire capable of suppressing fortified enemy positions. Anyone who thinks any of the weapons this bill aims to ban would do well to educate themselves about how true assault rifles are used in combat and what actually makes them effective in that capacity. Nevertheless, the term “assault rifle” has somehow become a commonplace misnomer that is, in all practicality, little more than a telltale scapegoat for uninformed anti firearm zealots to use when referring to a scary-looking rifle or even pistol. Please join me in taking a principled stand against such ignorance, and help empower those who share the passion Rhode Island firearm owners universally embrace for safety by providing those who blindly oppose what they don’t understand with knowledge of basic firearm terms, types, and functions, and ideally endowing them with enough basic information to allow Rhode Islanders from across party lines and all levels of firearms familiarity to engage in productive dialog and collaboration that might help replace fear and hatred with understanding. This could prove a vital first step that might eventually bring together best practices and knowledge-based, practicable solutions to enhance the safety and security of all of us when it comes to firearms, just as we would in virtually any other arena of public safety or welfare.

### 3. Criminalizing Possession of Parts

Page 2, lines 33-34, make it illegal to possess parts that could assemble an “assault weapon,” even if unmounted. This vague provision turns ordinary Rhode Islanders into felons for owning common components, with no public safety benefit.

\*Please see the above discussion of “assault weapon” and basic firearm knowledge.

### 4. Practical and Constitutional Concerns

Beyond its illegality under state law, this bill infringes deeply on constitutional rights (at both the State and Federal levels) and disproportionately harms law-abiding citizens who are already some of the safest, most responsible firearm owners in the country. Feature bans like flash hiders (which mitigate, not eliminate, muzzle flash) or choke tubes (standard on shotguns) serve practical purposes, often enhancing safety or simply ergonomics, and do nothing to affect lethality or serve any conceivable criminal purpose. I urge you to oppose these unconstitutional bills. Partisan politics aside, Rhode Islanders deserve representation that respects their rights and the law.

Thank you.

Kristen Gallucci