

## Ariana Costa

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**From:** nicole ziobrowski <nicky26zio@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 25, 2025 4:37 PM  
**To:** House Judiciary Committee  
**Subject:** Please Oppose the Proposed Assault Weapons Ban in Rhode Island H5436, H5443, H5651, H5652, H5654, H5889, H5890, H5891.

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear Representative ,

My name is Nicole Ziobrowski and I'm writing to respectfully voice my opposition to the proposed "assault weapons ban" in Rhode Island.

My family has been directly impacted by violence in our own state—my uncle, God father whom we share our birthdays together although 15 yrs apart was murdered, and my cousin was shot in 2023. <https://turnto10.com/amp/news/local/johnston-rhode-island-fatal-shooting-ligian-court-little-league-baseball-braves-coach-thomas-may>

These tragedies forever broke our hearts as well as changed generations of our family totally destroyed and underscore the need for effective public safety policies. Yet I believe that banning so-called "assault weapons" will do little to address the root causes of violence. The FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) data shows that rifles (including those labeled as "assault weapons") account for a small percentage of firearm homicides each year—often less than 3%. By focusing on an "assault weapons ban," lawmakers risk diverting attention from more prevalent issues driving gun crime, such as illegal handguns and lack of comprehensive mental health support.

Moreover, I come from a family of veterans. My parents served this country to protect the freedoms we cherish, including the fundamental right to self-defense. I deserve the same right to protect myself and my loved ones. Punishing responsible citizens with new restrictions will not necessarily lower crime rates, but it can make it harder for everyday people to feel secure.

Thank you for considering my concerns. I urge you to oppose legislation that merely bans certain types of firearms while ignoring the deeper challenges behind violence. Please help safeguard the rights of law-abiding Rhode Islanders.

Respectfully,

Nicole Ziobrowski  
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