

## Roberta DiMezza

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**From:** Peter Kaczmarek <pgkacz@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 3, 2025 3:51 PM  
**To:** Rep. Ajello, Edith H.; Rep. Batista, Jose F.; Rep. Bennett, David A.; Rep. Casimiro, Julie A.; Rep. Corvese, Arthur J.; Rep. Craven, Robert E.; rep-cruz@rileislature.gov; Rep. Dawson, Matthew S.; Rep. Felix, Leonela; Rep. Knight, Jason; Rep. McEntee, Carol Hagan; Rep. Noret, Thomas E.; Rep. Place, David J.; Rep. Roberts, Sherry  
**Cc:** Alison Kaczmarek; Rep. Shanley, Evan P.; House Judiciary Committee  
**Subject:** Please Don't Wait til Rhode Islanders Die Senselessly...

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Dear House Judiciary Members,

Please vote YES on H5436A to Ban Assault Weapons in Rhode Island and move this bill to the floor for a full vote and passage. PLEASE, do not wait for a high casualty shooting tragedy in our state before we put this commonsense gun law in place.

My name is Peter Kaczmarek and I am a resident of East Greenwich, Rhode Island. My State Rep is Evan Shanley. **I urge you and all the members of the Judiciary Committee to support H5436A and pass it out of committee to the House floor.** H5436A will prohibit the future manufacture, sale, transfer, purchase and possession of assault weapons.

**I am a businessman in Rhode Island and a proud owner of a manufacturing company founded and headquartered in Cranston. My 60 Rhode Island employees deserve and expect a safe work environment, free of life-threatening weapons that were designed to be used only in wartime.**

Police across Rhode Island support the ban because they know that assault weapons kill indiscriminately at a high rate and do not give law enforcement a chance to save lives in an emergency.

I've been at the State House when the gun lobbyists flood the debate with distractions and false equivalencies. We all know that the gun lobby will use one of six basic arguments to try to prevent sensible gun regulation. You have heard variations of every one of these for years now.

1. Technical lingo about gun types and parts to confuse or discredit those who want to keep the community safe – that's just a smokescreen to avoid discussing the carnage these weapons cause

2. The “slippery slope” argument – the myth that this bill will lead to outright gun bans. This has never and will never happen – these are military weapons that were never dreamed of by our framers and have never led to broader gun bans.
3. “I need it to defend my family!” There has never been a documented example of a hoard attacking a family that required an assault rifle to defend and it’s more likely to hurt or kill innocent bystanders. Almost every documented lethal use of assault weapons is an intentional mass killing. Even police who have had their own assault weapons on scene have been unable to prevent them.
4. “I’m a hunter!” – Unless you are hunting throngs of zombies – an assault rifle pulverizes animal flesh and is definitely not “sporting.” No real sportsman would use one.
5. The “Criminals don’t follow gun laws” argument – every place that has enacted an assault weapons ban (including the entire country in the 1990’s) has seen a decline in gun deaths, so they work. Apparently fewer assault weapons result in fewer needless deaths, period.
6. “It violates the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment” – sorry, the Supreme Court has upheld assault weapons bans multiple times, [including this week](#) - so NO.

**It’s ALSO ironic that almost every NRA conference and 2A supporter event is explicitly GUN-FREE and/or ammo-free – when these are all supposed to be the “good guys” with guns. Why do they want to protect themselves from weapons of war but not average Rhode Islanders?**

**Please support H5436A and bring it to the floor for a vote. It’s what the vast majority of Rhode Islanders demand – before we must repeat the cruel tragedy that has ripped apart so many other communities.**

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