

Roberta DiMezza

From: Theresa Schimmel <terrerschimmel@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 2:08 PM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Cc: Teresa Tanzi
Subject: Support for H7755 and H8069

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TO: Chair Hagan McEntee and members of the House Judiciary Committee:
FROM: Theresa Schimmel
RE: Support : H7755 and H8069

I am writing to urge you to support H 7755 (Boylan) and H 8069 (Donovan). H 7755 would change the application to purchase a firearm by updating the "Blue Card" process, which was last updated in 1998.

1. This act would also require persons seeking to possess a firearm except for police and military personnel to complete and pass a basic firearm safety training course.
2. This bill will bring us in line with 15+ other states and large urban areas who have passed similar laws and seen significant reductions in gun homicide rates.
3. Our neighbor, Connecticut, saw a 28% reduction in homicides, and a 33% reduction in gun suicides.

H 8069 Requires shooting ranges to post signs in any area in which shooting occurs that contain the following language: "WARNING: If you or a loved one is experiencing distress and/or depression, call the 988 Suicide and Crisis hotline or text "HOME" to 741741."

1. It would also require employees of the shooting range to participate in training to recognize the warning signs of suicide
2. Last Fall, in Tiverton, there were two tragic incidents of firearm suicide at the same shooting range, two months apart.
3. RI has no laws governing privately owned shooting ranges, so owners are free to operate under whatever rules they'd like. This reasonable law will save the lives of those in crisis who need help.

As a member of Moms Demand Action for Gun Safety, I am aware of the statistics on gun-related deaths and injuries and the need to put in common-sense legislation to prevent as many of them as possible. I believe that both of these laws would prevent tragedies.

Please pass H 7755 and H 8069

Sincerely,
Theresa Schimmel