

## Ariana Costa

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**From:** Jonathan Newkirk <noreply@not-the-end.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 3, 2026 5:43 PM  
**To:** Rep. Casey, Stephen M.; Rep. Chippendale, Michael W.; Rep. Marie Hopkins; Rep. O'Brien, William W.; Rep. Corvese, Arthur J.; Rep. Dawson, Matthew S.; Rep. Earl Read; Rep. Nathan Biah; Rep. Justine Caldwell; Sen. Bridget Valverde; House Judiciary Committee  
**Subject:** Constituent Letter Re: RI 2026 Bill H8072 — Stun Gun Legalization for Adults (House)

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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Dear Rep. Justine Caldwell and Sen. Bridget Valverde,

As a constituent and resident of East Greenwich, I am writing to express my strong support for RI 2026 H8072, which aims to legalize the purchase of stun guns for adults while criminalizing their use in crimes. I firmly believe that this bill strikes a necessary balance between personal safety and responsible ownership.

In my opinion, this legislation will have a positive impact on Rhode Island residents, particularly women and the elderly, who may feel more vulnerable to crime. By allowing adults to purchase stun guns, we can empower them to take an active role in their personal safety. Additionally, the criminalization of stun gun use in crimes will serve as a deterrent to potential offenders. I have spoken to friends and neighbors in East Greenwich who have expressed interest in taking self-defense classes, and the availability of stun guns would be a valuable addition to their safety measures. Furthermore, this bill can also help to reduce the burden on our law enforcement agencies by providing citizens with a means to protect themselves.

I urge you to vote yes on H8072. I appreciate your dedication to serving our community and I am grateful for your time and consideration of my thoughts on this matter. With appreciation for your public service, Jonathan Newkirk East Greenwich