

## Roberta DiMezza

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**From:** Robert Roy <rroy1031@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 5, 2026 11:16 PM  
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Good Evening, To Whom It May Concern

My name is Robert Roy and I am a Woonsocket Resident who is concerned about upcoming legislation. It has come to my attention that Bill H8073 has been introduced in attempts to amend the already passed Assault Weapons Ban that will go into effect this coming July. I am asking that you please vote no on this particular bill in that it is introduced in bad faith knowing that this was the original language of the draft bill last year but was ultimately cut out in order to pass the bill. I understand that you may not agree with my position and feel strongly that more firearm regulation is needed in wake of the Brown and Pawtucket Ice Rink shootings this year. I also understand that there is a deep issue that is currently gripping our country in regards to violence which is also driving the AWB proposals. I will not insult you with empty platitudes of "it is my God given constitutional right" as this does not explain my position well enough.

I ask you to look at this from a criminal and civil law perspective. The law originally passed has not even fully taken effect yet and therefore we do not have data to show how much this has reduced crimes committed with said weapons. The overwhelming majority of individuals in the state that own these weapons are used for a lawful purpose. This is reflected in that most crimes, including the two aforementioned shootings, were committed with handguns. I do not see the logic in prohibiting possession if evidence proves that overall it can be owned safely and the issue lies with errant few who should be deemed NOT able to own weapons in general. The passage of this law would turn all owners into criminal offenders with the stroke of a pen.

Secondly, I do view this as a civil issue. Over the past year alone, we have witnessed wholesale attacks on personal rights and individual liberties across this country in the name of partisan gotcha tactics namely from the Trump administration. I believe that this behavior goes back much further than just our current president but the current admin has increased the damage to scope not seen in my lifetime. I am feeling increasingly disenfranchised and insecure in my possessions and liberties. While supporting this law does feel like it is solving a problem, it is adding another layer of overregulation to a stressed out and increasingly shunted populace that is tired of getting the bare minimum and told to accept it. I feel that this conversation deserves far more thought and care that does not result in blanket loss in ownership of perceived safety.

I do love this state as my home and I would like to continue living here knowing that we are at the forefront of enshrining liberties and placing our people first before political games. Once again, I ask that the committee please vote no on Bill H8073 and if you feel that you need to hear more from me as a constituent, I am very much willing to talk.

Thank You,

Robert Roy

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