

Dear: Sir or Mam,

I am writing to you in regards to the three gun bills, HB4005, SB1538 and HB4036. I am very much opposed to any gun laws and restrictions on our rights and freedoms. We have a constitutionally protected right to keep and bear arms.

We live in an area that has the highest sex trafficking rate in the US. As a single female I should have the right to be able to defend myself and my home. Taking that right away leaves women like me at a disadvantage to defend myself and is wrong. The only thing that will stop a criminal with a gun is a good guy with one. A good example is the latest church shooting in Texas. A very brave and heroic Jack Willson took out the criminal in 6 seconds with 1 shot. In 6 seconds the criminal managed to murder two men before he was eliminated. If Mr Willson was not armed, as well as the many other church goes, the death toll would have been catastrophic by the time police would of been able to get there. Thanks to an armed citizen and his heroic acts, lots of lives were saved that day. A gun free zone is basically an invitation and free for all for evil that wishes to do harm. Gun laws only harm good people and leave them vulnerable, unprotected and gives evil an edge. Criminals don't obey gun laws, never have and never will. They will always find a way to commit their evil acts whether its with a gun or not. Guns are just a tool, an inanimate object. We don't have a gun problem, we have a people problem, a morality problem and zero respect for life in this throw away culture.

I grew up with guns and hunting. I learned young, gun safety and proper handling of them. It is a great skill to learn to keep kids safe. Shooting sports are also a healthy, safe and fun sport for kids and adults alike. Not all kids are into football or baseball. Why take this sport away from kids who enjoy it and restrict guns and shooting sports to adults only? Gun sports are the safest sport in the country. It gives kids something to participate in and be proud of plus learn valuable life skills. The league for youth gun sports started in 2001. Over 50,000,000 rounds fired and no injuries. Why take that away from these youth. Would you like it if you lost access to a sport or activity you loved and enjoyed all because someone else didn't and didn't agree with it? I think not.

"Arms in the hands of citizens may be used at individual discretion for the defence fo the country, the overthrow of tyranny or private self defence." John Adams. This quote by one of our founding fathers states 3 good reasons why we must retain our right to keep and bear arms. If we don't learn from history we are doomed to repeat it. A very sombering reminder of this is the holocaust. Once disarmed and defenceless, over 6 million innocent people were murdered by their own government. The only reason a government wants to disarm its citizens is that they are planning to do something you wouldn't like.

I strongly urge you to vote NO on all of these damaging gun bills. Don't leave women like me unprotected with no way to defend ourselves just because you don't think guns are necessary. Again, we don't have a gun problem, we have a people problem. Thank you for taking the time to read this and to hear me out. Thank you and have a great day!

Kristi Koivisto