

Submitter: DAVID A NARDONE
On Behalf Of: MYSELF
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure: HB2006

Re: Raise the age for purchase and possession of semiautomatic firearms (HB 2006, Rep. Evans).

?As a Navy physician, who served in Vietnam (Aug 1970 - May 1971, and retired Portland V.A. internist, I know well the impact guns can have. I have never owned a gun and never fired a weapon outside of my military service. I do have the utmost respect for the vast majority of gun owners, because they are responsible. However, we do have a gun violence problem in our country. It has progressed to the level of an epidemic, similar in devastation to cancer, heart disease, and COVID-19.

Each and every life is valuable. Hands down, grandparents and parents value the lives of their children more than their own. Comparative data among 12 developed nations that list the major causes of death in their youth, only the U.S. ranks 1st in deaths from guns. The next closest country is Canada, where deaths from guns in their children is the 5th leading cause. In child deaths from cancer, all other countries rank it (cancer) as the 1st or 2nd leading cause of death. The U.S. is a distant 5th.

<https://www.kff.org/global-health-policy/issue-brief/child-and-teen-firearm-mortality-in-the-u-s-and-peer-countries/>

This information compels me to advocate for common sense gun safety laws that in the aggregate will lower the death rate of our children from gun violence.

Please support and vote for HB-2006.

Thank You for your consideration.

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House District #30 - Representative Sosa
Senate District #15 - Senator Sollman