

Ann Braden P.O. Box 2533 Brattleboro, VT 05303

January 27th, 2016

Dear Representatives,

When it comes to the issue of guns, too often there is a disconnect between the sensible action that the vast majority of voters want to see and the hesitancy to tackle this issue that can exist in the legislature. Gun violence is a serious issue that deserved to be addressed in a way that is thoughtful and balanced. We should be able to have discussions about proposed policy that focus on the details of the actual policy instead of equating all gun laws as a "path to confiscation". The lawn signs that the NRA-affiliate, the VT Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, put up all around Burlington in advance of the vote on the charter changes in March 2014 said: "All roads lead to confiscation," and they spent over \$15,000 trying to prove that point. However, the voters of Burlington saw past their rhetoric and voted to pass these three gun safety measures with sizable majorities, with 59%, 67%, and 73% of the vote.

The will of the people is clear. The legislature's job is not to block the will of the people, but instead to find solutions that allow the will of the people to be heard.

Thank you for taking up this issue.

Sincerely,

Ann Braden GunSenseVT, President