

Denise,

My name is Jim Hazell and I live in Searsburg. I am sending this email in regards to the proposed Burlington charter changes that seeks to put unconstitutional laws into place. Vermont has a long history of firearms ownership with very few cases of actual "violent gun crime" that groups like Gunsense blatantly lie about. The 2nd amendment to the US constitution and Article 16 of the VT-C both state that we, the people, have a right to keep and bear arms for self defense. This charter change seeks to stop that in favor of proven-to-fail knee-jerk responses to violent crime. Criminals love gun control. It makes crime so much safer when your victims are unarmed. Please take the time to listen to the stories that Gunsense tells. Look into those stories on your own, like I have. Many of their tales are just that: Tall Tales. I have researched several of their stories about gun violence only to find that A) it NEVER happened and/or B) it happened in a different state, upwards of 40 years ago, and as such, have little bearing on current events here in Vermont. I am a proud Vermont gun owner, and it hurts me deeply that people come from other states to experience the rare beauty that is Vermont, and then try to turn VT into those places they came from. If this legislation is allowed to pass, law-abiding gun owners will become outlaws simply by carrying a gun through Burlington. THAT is just plain wrong.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Hazell