

Dear Senators and Representatives,

Please vote NO on S.141.

Anne Braden is a liar and shouldn't be rewarded for her lies.

Anne Braden has misrepresented herself to the State Legislature and the People of Vermont. She is not a Mom representing other Vermont Moms with her organization "Gunsense." She is not leading a "grassroots" effort funded and supported by Vermonters.

***Anne Braden is a paid lobbyist. It is the interests of Ann Braden's unknown client that is served by S.141—not the interests of the people of Vermont.***

In corporate documents, Anne Braden is identified as a paid lobbyist and "president" of Gunsense. She has declined repeatedly to disclose just how her three year-old organization is paying for its significant manpower. Gunsense has eight paid lobbyists working on changing Vermont's long standing gun laws and retains the services of a lobbying firm, Necrason Group of Montpelier.

Lobbying firms, such as the Necrason Group, are paid to get results. They do so by "manufacturing crises" through tactics of pushing their talking points to the public via wide-spread and frequent media coverage, well-placed editorials, and polls.

With this deft management of public perception underway, lobbyists then inundate our elected representatives with "data" generated by their paid staff to support the outcomes sought by their clients. Let's not be fooled by Ms. Braden that this "bill" is written to meet the needs of Vermonters. We, who enjoy living in the safest state in the Nation with an almost equal share of gun owners and non-gun owners existing peacefully as neighbors, are not in need of what Braden is offering.

***The goal of S. 141 is to fulfill an unknown agenda of out-of-state interests.***

Ann Braden's group is not representing the interests of Vermont citizens and this was clearly admitted to the legislature.

Last month a representative of GunSense "Vermont" made it clear in his testimony to Senator Spears that out-of-state interests have been the deciding force behind the S. 141 bill now before you. This statement is

directly at odds with the manner in which Anne Braden has characterized Gungense "Vermont" to our law enforcement, citizens and legislative body.

In contrast, Ed Cutler actually does represent a group of Vermont residents. He has presented himself honestly without distorting the facts.

The distinction between my neighbors, Vermont gun owners, defending their rights and paid lobbyists seeking to enact superfluous gun laws is clear. The first group is "by the people, for the people," the second is not.

Please vote NO on S.141.

Liars don't deserve your vote.

Thank you,

Eileen Foster  
Cambridge, Vermont  
(a Vermont Mom)

P.S. Vermonters (of the non-hunter-orange-wearing variety) are closely watching the show. We have a vested interest in the outcome—Vermont is the safest state in the Nation and we like it that way. I like to think that Vermont is a place of decent people who conduct themselves honestly. Mr. Cutler strikes me as worthy of support.