

Dear Mr. Bailey:

Hello! Forgive me if I have directed this message incorrectly, but based on the official VT State website for the House Committee on Judiciary, I believe that messages for the committee should be sent to you. (Please correct me if I am wrong.) I would appreciate it if you can pass this message along to the members of the committee.

I am writing to state my strong opposition to Rep. Martin LaLonde's proposed amendment to S.55, An Act Relating to the Disposition of Unlawful and Abandoned Firearms, currently under consideration by the Judiciary Committee. Restricting the Second Amendment rights of law abiding Vermonters is the wrong approach to protecting our citizens. There are many reasons that this is so, but I'll just point out the most obvious: the Clinton era national ban on assault weapons had no measurable effect on gun violence, and in fact firearms homicides have been declining steadily since it ended. A Vermont ban would be similarly ineffective while needlessly restricting the rights of honest citizens.

I would also like to point out that I do fully support the establishment of universal background checks, so long as the "reasonable fee" charged for performing them is indeed capped at reasonable amount; I would suggest \$25.

Thank you for taking time to hear my perspective.

Best Regards,

Elye Alexander
Craftsbury Common