

January 17, 2024 S.209 “Vermont Ghost Gun Act”, Senate Committee on Judiciary

Renee McGuinness, Monkton, Addison-4, Vermont

1. S.209 serves to lessen and abridge our rights and privileges under Chapter 1, Article 16 of the Constitution of the State of Vermont, as well as infringe upon the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, which is the supreme law of the land, by encumbering law-abiding citizens with ineffectual requirements.
2. Why do you persist with more legislation that infringes upon the Second Amendment while the State is currently being sued, at taxpayer expense for State defense, on the constitutionality of H.230 72-hour waiting period and Act 94 limits on magazine capacity? This is irresponsible and reprehensible on two counts: a) infringement of 2A; and b) burdening taxpayers with court expenses to defend unlawful legislation.
3. S.209 does not stop criminals from acquiring parts without serial numbers.
4. S.209 Criminal procedures for persons ages 14 -21 charged with human and/or drug trafficking and stalking is a separate matter that should be addressed in a separate bill.
5. Please strike all language in S.209 that pertains to so-called “Ghost Guns”.
6. Please cease and desist unconstitutional legislation and repeal Act 94 and H.230.
7. I remind you of your oath of office under Chapter II of The Constitution of the State of Vermont:

§ 16. [Representatives’ oaths]

The Representatives having met, and chosen their Speaker and Clerk, shall each of them, before they proceed to business, take and subscribe, as well the oath or affirmation of allegiance hereinafter directed (except where they shall produce certificates of their having theretofore taken and subscribed the same) as the following oath or affirmation:

You do solemnly swear (or affirm) that as a member of this Assembly, you will not propose, or assent to, any bill, vote or resolution, which shall appear to you injurious to the people, **nor do you consent to any act or thing whatever, that shall have a tendency to lessen or abridge their rights and privileges, as declared by the Constitution of this State;** but will, in all things, conduct yourself as a faithful, honest Representative and guardian of the people, according to the best of your judgment and ability. (In case of an oath) So help you God. (Or in case of an affirmation) Under the pains and penalties of perjury.