[insert date here]

Hello [insert your representative's name here],

I am tremendously concerned about the proposed amendments to Bill C-21.

Originally put forward to the Canadian public and debated in the House as a bill that dealt with handguns and red flag laws, the amendments sought by the government expand it to ban all commercially available semi-automatic centrefire rifles and many shotguns. This definition includes millions of individual firearms, owned by over a million licensed Canadians, none of which have ever committed any sort of violent crime. We know this because doing so would already trigger an automatic firearms prohibition due to the Continuous Eligibility Screening Program that runs daily criminal background checks on all licensed gun owners.

This is the largest change to Canadian firearms ownership regulations since the creation of the very Firearms Act itself, and expands an existing two-year-old gun ban that's coincided with the worst increases in gun violence in recent memory. In fact, seven years of ever-increasing gun regulation has had no demonstrative impact on Canada's violent crime or even gun crime rates whatsoever, while negatively impacting millions of Canadian gun owners' lives and, most importantly, pulling billions of dollars away from chronically underfunded programs that would have larger, positive public safety outcomes, from at-risk youth supports, to mental health facilities, to shelters, to addictions and counselling supports in the community. I'm sure you can think of at least a dozen.

For all these reasons, as a constituent, I ask you to please examine this bill and the amendments being sought and consider opposing it. It does not address the criminal use of firearms nor the criminal possession of firearms, and seeks simply to divide, which it will - at tremendous cost.

I am available at your convenience via this email to answer any questions you might have about my perspective or my concerns, and look forward to hearing from you,

Sincerely,

[Your name here]