

**Daniel J. Mizak M.D.
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Huntington, Ct. 06484
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Dear sirs,

I am writing to you regarding Raised Bills 603 and 607. I have been a medical doctor since 1968. I spent two years in the U.S. Army as a doctor from 1970 to 1972. During that time I shot with the Army rifle and pistol teams. Since coming back from the Army, I have been an active rifle and pistol and shotgun shooter and have acquired a great deal of knowledge regarding weapons functioning as well as ammunition reloading.

In 1994 or 1995, after the passage of the assault rifle ban, I learned from a patient about a real-estate agents' meeting that he attended. It seems that many of the real estate agents were in favor of gun control and were quite upset that they were not able to confiscate the weapons named in the ban. They discussed at length how they're going to make it too expensive and too dangerous to own guns. Bill 603 is clearly not a crime control bill but an attempt to make target shooting and hunting too expensive to participate in. It would virtually prevent anyone but a multimillionaire from being able to participate in organized target shooting. Even in the Army we had to reload the ammunition that we used for target practice. While the criminal seldom even needs one box of ammunition, target shooters shoot thousands of rounds per year. Shooters who load their own ammunition would not be able to comply with this law. Since stolen weapons seem to cross state lines without much problem it would seem that a couple boxes of ammunition would be as hard to find as a specific grain of sand on the beach. I should also note that in the 1970's by federal mandate we were required to show I.D. for the purchase of handgun ammunition for a period of five years. After this time period ATF testified that despite the great amount bookkeeping required it had not led to any prosecutions. After that, the requirement was dropped. This bill clearly seems aimed at raising the price of shooting way out of the price range of

all but multimillionaires and also to make it impossible for competitive shooting to continue. The possession aspects of this law would also make household members eligible for prosecution if they were found to be in possession of unmarked ammunition even if they did not know it was present. For those who intend to break the law, and were dumb enough to purchase the ammunition themselves, they could simply pull the bullet and with a file or Dremel tool remove the markings and reseal the bullets. I can assure you that this is easy to do and will work.

Bill 607 seems aimed more at making weapons that people possess not only worthless but too dangerous to own. Paragraph(e) would make all semiautomatic pistols manufactured up to the present time, including high priced target pistols illegal from the point of view of sale, since none have been made with the micro stamping. By this law you would make hundreds of millions of dollars that people have legally pay for their weapons unrecoverable and nontransferable- at least through legal channels. Most people that I know sell their guns through a dealer and the dealers would not be able to handle the transactions any longer.

As far as the micro stamping process is concerned it is a technology that is easily defeated. While I am not a gunsmith, I have acquired a reasonable amount of knowledge regarding working on weapons. I can tell you that in 15 minutes I could the defeat the micro stamping technology with simple tools that I could purchase at Home Depot. All I would need is a couple of cheap punches and a Dremel tool. However, if I was a criminal and had obtained the weapon on the street why should I even bother removing the markings?

If you are really interested in decreasing crime you could fund the Street Crime Unit. When the State of Connecticut came up short of money several years ago, it is interesting to note that the funds for this unit were dropped. This is the unit that made a difference and yet despite everyone's posturing with regard to crime control, this was the unit that was not funded. It's really the units on the streets

that decrease the crime rather than the people at the Department of Public Safety who are pushing pencils.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel J. Mizak M.D." in a cursive style.

Daniel J. Mizak M.D.