

- **SB 603 AN ACT CONCERNING AMMUNITION CODING**
- **SB 607 AN ACT CONCERNING THE IDENTIFICATION OF CERTAIN FIREARMS AND THE CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF FIREARMS.**

Members of the Committee:

My name is Amy Stegall and I am from Stafford CT, and I am here today in **STRONG OPPOSITION** to bills 603 & 607.

- **603 & 607 are anti-business:** they increase the cost of manufacturing a firearm, and ammunition—which leads to increased cost to the consumer as well as a directive negative impact on the employees of those companies. Connecticut invites companies like Cabelas into our state and then cuts their ability to be competitive in part of their market. We are losing jobs and companies in this state at an alarming rate—why would legislators support a bill which causes further damage?
- **603 & 607 are detrimental to the police & public safety:** In California where this legislation was recently enacted, some gun manufacturers will no longer sell necessary firearms to the police—citing that if the gun is not legal for public use, it is not legal for police use. This strips police departments of the ability to obtain necessary firearms.
- **603 & 607 will NOT stop crime:** The technology is easily overridden or ignored by criminals. Most criminals do not purchase firearms legally—they buy stolen weapons on the street. Therefore the technology is moot because it does not tell you where or who the criminal is that is in possession of this firearm—merely that it had been stolen from its previous owner. Believing that these bills will solve crime is a farce and a fairytale. Legislators should work towards solving the hard problems that cause violent crimes: drug addiction, lack of education and poverty.
- **603 & 607 are potentially in violation of anti-trust laws:** There is only one manufacturer of the “coded” ammunition and they hold a patent to the technology. In fact, there have been news reports that they have a lobbyist to work with legislators to enact this very legislation. I would like to know if the legislators who are sponsoring this bill have any interaction with any representative of this company?
- **603 & 607 attacks lawful “reloaders”.** Again, this affects business, because those people who reload ammunition will no longer be purchasing ammunition components from companies such as L.L Bean and Cabelas, which again causes damage to our economy. The bills effectively make reloaders into criminals.

Its time legislators stopped assaulting law abiding citizens and expended more effort on the real issues facing our state. These bills are fairy tales and to support them is a waste of taxpayer money.

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