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I am a veteran of the U.S. Navy. I served as an Aviation Electronics Technician. I also volunteered for the base auxiliary security force.

I was employed at Colt's Manufacturing Company as a Research and Development Test Coordinator. I audited current firearm designs as well as tested new designs and materials. With this position I was also a certified range officer at Fort Devens Ma, and coordinator of the Colt's 30-yard test range.

I am a NRA certified Range Safety Officer as well as an instructor in the following disciplines. Home Firearms Safety, Basic Pistol, Personal Protection in the Home, Basic Rifle and Basic Shotgun.

**\*Bill 603: Ammunition coding.** This is not a proven technology as it pertains to gunpowder. It is still in its infancy. To my knowledge there is no foolproof way to detect, recover or prove which firearm the tags came from after a crime is committed with a firearm. As far as I know there are very few companies even researching this technology. Crime will most likely not stop or be reduced.

**\*Bill 607: Firearm Identification and Criminal Possession of Firearms. Micro Stamping** is also a new technology and it can be defeated using common household materials quite easily.

Laser etching does not penetrate deeply into hard materials and can easily be scraped, sanded or filed off. Usually it cannot be raised again.

The very nature of metals and the function of a firearm can make the **MICRO STAMPED** information extremely distorted or even totally obliterated after prolonged shooting.

During the "Capitol News Briefing" on March 3, 2008, Joshua Horwitz of the (Coalition to Stop Gun Violence), Rep. Michael Lawlor (D), Sen. Andrew McDonald (D) and Rep. Bob Godfrey (D) inferred that they are relying on criminals to be stupid. They feel that criminals will not learn to pick up their brass after shooting. There are several inexpensive ways to catch or recover your fired brass as they are ejected from the firearm, or criminals could just choose to use revolvers.

Also, these gentlemen only emphasized catching the perpetrator **after** a crime, **not** stopping or even reducing crime.

Mr. Horwitz alluded to 1 test conducted by a private party in with no established testing procedures or unbiased witnesses.

During the demonstration at the end of the briefing, a gentleman stated that the only way to extend a firing pin through the breach face of a pistol is to pull the trigger. That is not

so. With most semi automatic pistols, when the slide is locked rearward you can push the firing pin forward until it protrudes from the breach face. Also, know that most semi automatic pistols can easily be disassembled to the point where the firing pin is removed from the gun. After either procedure the pin can easily be modified.

**\*These bills will only increase the already increasing cost of manufacturing firearms and easily be circumvented by criminals (even stupid ones). They will NOT reduce or prevent crime and only hurt Firearms Manufacturers, Retailers and law-abiding citizens.**

As a law abiding gun owner and a proud citizen of this country I ask that, before considering future firearms legislation you educate yourselves. Technologies like these should be thoroughly researched, tested and proven beyond a reasonable doubt **before the government takes any action.** They should be proven to stop or reduce crime greatly **WITHOUT** reducing law-abiding citizens right to self-defense and ability to enjoy shooting sports.

Thank you

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