

State Representative Michael Lawlor
State Senator Andrew McDonald
and Members of the Judiciary Committee

I am writing you with regards to Raised Bills 603 & 607 and your committee action upon them.

Raised Bill 603 requires all ammunition sold in Connecticut to be coded with an individual serial number (ammunition serialization) and entered into a statewide database at the time of sale. Encoded ammunition would be registered to the purchaser and would include the date of transaction, the purchaser's name, date of birth, driver's license number, and the serial number of the ammunition. Not only would this measure cause enormous increases in the cost of ammunition, but it could lead to the establishment of a database of ammunition consumers and ultimately the cessation of the sale of ammunition in Connecticut. This legislation exposes gun owners to risk of criminal prosecution without them even knowing it! There is no way for the ammunition consumer to be assured that the serial number imprinted on the box matches the serial number on the rounds inside. Even if the industry can or will produce this ammunition exclusively for Connecticut, the consumers will be required to register ammunition purchases and then blindly trust that the number etched on the "base of the bullet projectile" is accurately represented on the box in which it is sold. Since the "base of the bullet projectile" is necessarily obscured by the cartridge case, it is impossible for the consumer to know if he or she has accurately "registered" their purchase. I strongly urge you to **OPPOSE** the approval of this bill.

Raised Bill 607 seeks to ban the sale of semi-automatic handguns not equipped with so-called "microstamping" technology. Microstamping is a failed technology that would require identifying marks to be etched into the firing pin and breech face of a firearm. The technology can easily be defeated with common household tools, has no public safety value, and adds substantially to the cost of the firearm. This bill would also outlaw the private sale or transfer of long guns. I strongly urge you to OPPOSE approval of this bill.

Both of these bills insult the integrity of every law abiding gun owner and does absolutely nothing to prevent criminal activity. It places an unnecessary burden upon those who have done nothing to deserve it. It's time lawful gun owners were are no longer treated like criminals by State Legislators. Legislative energies would better be spent on criminals, not lawful taxpayers.

Respectfully

Thomas Phelps
Lisbon, CT