

Dear Member of the Connecticut General Assembly, Government Administration and Elections Committee,

I am writing you today to express my opposition to senate bill # 839 which proposes that the current duties of the Board of Firearm Permit Examiners be transferred to the Department of Public Safety. This would severely reduce the fairness of the appeals process for individuals who are either denied a pistol permit or had their permit revoked without proper cause.

Right now, an individual who wishes to dispute a decision handed down from the Department of Public Safety (who has the authority to grant or deny pistol permits), can appeal to an independent entity (the Board of Firearm Permit Examiners). If this law is enacted, that individual would have to appeal directly to the DPS itself. How can someone expect to get a fair hearing if they have to appeal to the same people that denied him or her the permit in the first place? This bill further degrades the "checks and balances" principal that the US government was founded on so that no one entity has excessive power over another. In my opinion, this will give the DPS too much power over the rights of gun owners in the state.

I urge you to vote "NO" on SB839. This bill will only hurt law-abiding citizens in the long run. I understand that this measure is in attempt to cut costs at the state level, but eroding the freedoms of its citizens is not the way to fix a short-term budget problem. As legislators, you are bound to represent your constituents. As one of those people, I am urging you to vote "NO" on this bill.

Sincerely,

Dave Guzas

Milford, CT.