

Dear Committee Members,

My name is Peter Kuck and I am a member of the Board of Firearms Permit examiners (BPFE). In the name of full disclosure I am also one of the individuals who have filed a Civil Rights suit against the Department of Public Safety.

I am speaking today in opposition to section 30 of Governors Bill No. 839 (An Act Concerning Mergers and Consolidation of Various State Agencies) and the granting of any additional authority or power to the Department of Public Safety until they resolve the issues identified by the Attorney Generals report of December of 2006.

The BPFE is a civilian review board with authority over the Department of Public Safety in matters relating to pistol permit denials and revocations. The Boards authority to oversee the actions of the department of Public Safety resides in sec.29-32b (b) and I quote "Any person aggrieved by any refusal to issue or renew a permit or certificate under the provisions of section 29-28 or 29-36f, or by any limitation or revocation of a permit or certificate issued under any of said sections, or by a refusal or failure of any issuing authority to furnish an application as provided in section 29-28a, may, within ninety days after receipt of notice of such refusal, limitation or revocation, or refusal or failure to supply an application as provided in section 29-28a, and without prejudice to any other course of action open to such person in law or in equity, appeal to the board. On such appeal the board shall inquire into and determine the facts, de novo, and unless it finds that such a refusal, limitation or revocation, or such refusal or failure to supply an application, as the case may be, would be for just and proper cause, it shall order such permit or certificate to be issued, renewed or restored, or the limitation removed or modified, as the case may be."

Placing the Board under DPS would be a conflict of interest and turn any civilian review of the Department of Public safety into a bad joke. There are no savings of money here since the Board has less than a \$100,000 budget supporting a paid staff of 1½ and 7 unpaid volunteers.

Prior to the hearing I would like you to listen to a short audio clip from the Board of Firearms Permit Examiners hearing of 3/18/2008. They highlight my concerns over the attitude of some members of the Connecticut State police in regards to adhering to Laws passed by the legislature and to the due process rights of our states citizens. www.ycgg.org/sound/lawhasgitch.wmv

The comment made by Lt. Fox in this clip reveals the true mind set of the Connecticut State Police, and goes to the heart of the cases that play out before the Board of Firearms Permit Examiners.

To allow the Connecticut State Police, or for that matter, any other law enforcement agency, to unilaterally and capriciously question mandates or prohibitions of any state statute, on their exclusive belief, that the General Assembly "intentionally or otherwise" made a mistake when enacting the law, only causes the vagueness and chaos currently found in circumstances faced by countless citizens who have attempted to read, understand and comply with the written provisions of state statutes.

I ask you to consider if there could ever be a good reason to remove Civilian control and oversight from the Department of Public Safety.

Thank You

Peter Kuck
602 Park Road
West Hartford, CT 06107