

Judiciary Committee  
Hartford Connecticut  
March 16<sup>th</sup> 2009

Members of the Committee:

My name is Amy Stegall and I appreciate the opportunity to be heard on this legislation today.

I would ask that you **OPPOSE SB353 An Act Concerning Microstamping Semiautomatic Pistols:**

It should be noted that the inventor of this "technology" is a private individual who is not an experienced ballistics expert, and he holds a patent on the process. Despite his previous statement last year that he would offer the details to the manufacturers royalty free—the fact still remains that he alone owns the process due to his patent. I have concerns that this violates state and federal free trade laws, by creating a monopoly. The laws do not stipulate that a profit must be made, only that a monopoly exists.

On the opposite side of this issue is the fact that the bill prohibits retail sale of unmarked semiautomatic pistols after 2010. If I am following this correctly, it would appear that you are impeding the ability of gun owners to resell their pistols at some future date. Currently, retailers such as Cabelas will purchase firearms from private individuals and then offer those firearms for resale in their store. Since currently owned semiautomatic pistols are not microstamped, with passage of this bill it appears unlikely that gunowners would be able to resell unmarked pistols in the future, as the retailers who would ordinarily purchase them from private owners would be unable to resell them.

I also find it reprehensible that in today's economy, tax dollars are being wasted pursuing something that will clearly have a direct and negative impact on firearms manufactures in this state. I recognize that there are individuals who dislike firearms. However, gun manufacturers are conducting a lawful business, and they employ hundreds of people in our state. Our legislature has a reputation of not being business friendly, and I believe that this is an overwhelming example.

In closing, I have to note the irony that certain legislators have been working to get the Colt building in Hartford designated as a National Historical landmark, and yet this legislation has the potential to drive Colt out of our state.

Again, I would urge you to oppose SB 353.

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Member NRA  
Member Pomfret Rod & Gun Club  
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