

Good Day Chairman Lawlor, Chairman McDonald and members of the Judiciary Committee, my name is Cheryl Pittera and I live in Fairfield Connecticut. As a mother and citizen I share concerns about crime. However, I must express my opposition against S.353 the microstamping bill.

Bill S.353 will not work \_\_\_\_\_ for the reasons stated by others here today in opposition. I believe it will deprive law abiding citizens and mothers like me of their Right to keep and bear arms by depriving them of new pistols as of January 1, 2011.

My shooting sport of choice is clay target shooting. So why is an avid shot gun shooter here today? We do not believe this is just about the pistols you have targeted. Myself, and all those with a heritage like mine, believe that this is a movement to restrict firearms, period. It is about satisfying an anti-gun lobby that will be asking you to pass a flawed legislation on shotguns down the road.

Let me show you something. This is from a 1915 trap shooting competition in Danbury CT. This is one of the oldest gun clubs in New England and I have the privilege of serving on the Board of Directors. The heritage of these ladies' has been passed down through generations. Just our little club sees about 700 of their grandsons and great granddaughters shooting with us each year. There are many, many, families with a shotgun heritage in CT. They use shotguns for sports like mine or hunting or to protect themselves in their home.

My friends and fellow shot gun owners believe that we have every reason to expect that the anti-gun element pushing this flawed piece of legislation will target shotguns in the future. And it is only logical that if you support this legislation affecting law abiding citizen's access to pistols, we will see equally or more flawed legislation passed, affecting our shotguns. If the rights of law abiding citizens who choose to own pistols aren't upheld then there is no reason for us to believe that our rights as shotgun owners will be upheld either.

I ask you to please stop this now by not passing this S.353. Enforce the existing laws, please look at mandatory sentencing for criminal acts with guns, but please do not pass flawed legislation that will keep law abiding mothers like me from having the choice of buying the pistols we need for protection. Don't open the door for another piece of legislation that will also affect our access to shotguns. Thank you.

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