



COLT'S MANUFACTURING COMPANY LLC

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Joint Committee on Judiciary
Room 2500, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: SB 353 - Microstamping Bill

Dear Honorable Members of the Committee:

This bill is sheer lunacy. The microstamping concept is unproven, ineffective, and has no support from the forensic firearms community. Even if microstamping of semi-automatic pistols were to become a commercially viable technology, and it is far away from being so, Colt would face a dilemma: either stop selling semi-automatic pistols in the State of Connecticut or spend millions of dollars to accomplish this and try to pass on the costs to our customers.

What would be involved to adopt this concept? Our entire manufacturing process would need to be changed to accommodate micro-serialization of multiple firearm parts, requiring us to scrap our existing equipment. A logistical nightmare would ensue matching frames, firing pins (usually purchased from vendors), extractors, ejectors and/or slides. A host of electron microscopes would be necessary to read serial numbers on various parts. Interchangeable parts that have been Samuel Colt's contribution to the American Industrial Revolution ironically would no longer be able to be practiced in the State where he built his Colt Armory.

To give you an idea of microstamping's catastrophic effect on Colt, attached is a 2009 Colt catalog. Model "O" pistols on pages 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 are all semi-automatic and would be subject to this microstamping mandate.

If we can no longer sell these products in Connecticut without a microstamping feature and there results a precipitous drop in demand for our Model "O" pistols, we would have no other option than to lay off our workers who have good paying jobs in Connecticut. At that point, we would need to give serious consideration about moving out of state.

Please therefore reject SB 353. This bill is an anti-gun bill whose only purpose is to wreak havoc on the firearms and ammunition industry. It has nothing whatsoever to do with public safety or solving crimes.

Sincerely,

attachment

SYMBOL OF QUALITY SINCE 1836

