



East Hampton, CT

Date: 2/10/2009

From: Christopher P. O'Grady
Vice President
Strategy Plus Paintball

Subject: Testimony to the Public Safety and Security Committee regarding Raised Bill 825

Strategy Plus is the oldest continuously operating commercial paintball field in the world. Operating safely for over 25 years. We are fully insured and strictly supervise all of our operations. I appreciate this opportunity to testify before this committee concerning Paintball Safety.

Raised Bill 825 "AN ACT CONCERNING PAINTBALL SAFETY"

Raised Bill 825 is a) redundant to paintball industry safety standards and operating procedures, b) puts Connecticut Retailers at a severe competitive disadvantage in these tough economic times, and c) is wrongly directed at commercial fields, the safest areas of play.

Section 1:

- Safety Briefs are already a requirement and in place for our participants. These briefs cover game rules, safety and equipment operation. A commercial field can not be insured without adhering to these strict safety procedures.
- Written examinations and video presentations are burdensome, costly and counter productive outdoors.
- Certification would be costly for our commercial field to track and maintain since many of our players are recreational, playing just once.

Section 2:

- Requiring purchase or proof of a prior purchase of a helmet will put Connecticut Retailers at a disadvantage when competing with out of state retailers, mail order and internet companies. Consumers will be able to buy these products freely from these other sources without adhering to these requirements.

I urge the committee to take *no action* on Raised Bill 825

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call on me.

Thank you,

Christopher P. O'Grady
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