

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

March 23, 2011

RE: Opposition to Bill # 1094: An Act Banning Large Capacity Ammunition Magazines

To whom it may concern:

I am submitting this testimony in opposition to Bill 1094. I have reviewed the proposed bill and believe it will not make the people of Connecticut safer, nor will it decrease crime. By definition, criminals do not obey laws. I do not believe the passage of this bill will cause criminals to turn in large capacity magazines. Instead, only law-abiding citizens will relinquish their magazines. As this bill specifies an exemption for police officers, only during the "discharge of their official duty" (Section d1) it would also seem to make it illegal for off duty police officers to utilize magazines that hold more than ten rounds. With law-abiding citizens and off duty police limited to ten rounds the criminals would now hold an advantage and the people of Connecticut would become less safe.

This bill would personally affect me in several ways. As a competitive shooter who takes part in action shooting sports the confiscation of magazines that hold more than ten rounds would irrevocably alter the sport. I would also be forced to turn in magazines that I have purchased to defend my family and myself.

I have no criminal record and do not wish to have one. In order to avoid multiple felony charges this bill would require me to relinquish all of the magazines I own that can hold more than ten rounds. In my case, this bill would force me to turn over nearly a thousand dollars worth of legally purchased property. As I have done nothing wrong, I feel the confiscation of my property is both unfair and unjust.

I would like to be able to continue collecting, competing, and protecting myself with firearms as I have done for my entire adult life. I would also hope that future generations might enjoy the same level of firearms freedom that I have. I believe that vigorous enforcement of existing laws is the best way to ensure the safety of Connecticut's citizens. For these reasons, I would ask the members of the Judiciary committee to oppose this proposed bill.



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