

FIRST OF ALL I MUST STATE THAT I AM **STRONGLY** OPPOSED TO RAISED BILL 1094. IF I HAD TO PARAPHRASE THE TEXT OF THIS BILL I WOULD MERELY SAY THAT THIS BILL REQUIRES THE CITIZENS OF THIS STATE TO SURRENDER LEGALLY PURCHASED PERSONAL PROPERTY TO THE POLICE OR FACE IMPRISONMENT AS A CLASS D FELON. THIS IS ABUSE OF GOVERNING POWER. AS AN AMERICAN I AM NOT USED TO BEING THREATENED BY SUCH DRACONIAN LAWS. THE AUTHOR OF THIS RAISED BILL WOULD PROBABLY BE MORE COMFORTABLE IN A FASCIST STATE, AS LONG AS HE OR SHE WERE IN CHARGE THAT IS.

1 OF 5

IF THE AUTHOR OF THIS BILL WAS PRESENT AT THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION WHEN THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION WAS WRITTEN AND HE SUGGESTED INCLUDING A PROVISION THAT WOULD ALLOW THE GOVERNMENT TO FORCE ITS CITIZENS TO SURRENDER THEIR PERSONAL PROPERTY TO THE POLICE OR FACE IMPRISONMENT THEY WOULD HAVE KICKED HIM OUT THE DOOR. THE FOUNDERS OF OUR COUNTRY KNEW WHAT IT WAS LIKE TO BE ABUSED BY THEIR GOVERNMENT AND THEY WOULD NEVER HAVE ESTABLISHED A MECHANISM TO ABUSE THEIR FELLOW CITIZENS AND YET HERE WE ARE TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY YEARS LATER DISCUSSING THIS PROPOSAL.

**THE PURCHASE OF A GUN IS A CONTRACT**

THE PURCHASE OF A GUN IS SIMILAR TO ANY OTHER PURCHASE IN THAT IT IS A CONTRACT. MOST PURCHASE CONTRACTS INVOLVE ONLY BUYER AND SELLER, BUT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A GUN, THE STATE IS ALSO A PARTY TO THE CONTRACT. THE STATE MUST GIVE ITS PERMISSION FOR THE SALE TO OCCUR. THE STATE COLLECTS SALES TAX ON THE PURCHASE SO THE STATE AS WELL AS THE SELLER BENEFIT FROM THE SALE. THE STATE CANNOT UNILATERALLY CHANGE THE TERMS OF THE CONTRACT DAYS OR EVEN YEARS LATER BUY FORCING THE PURCHASER TO GIVE UP PART OF WHAT HE HAS PURCHASED FOR NO VALUE. IN THE CASE OF RAISED BILL 1094 THE PURCHASER SUFFERS AT LEAST A PARTIAL ECONOMIC LOSS IF HE RECEIVES NO REFUND FOR THE VALUE OF THE MAGAZINE HE WAS FORCED TO SURRENDER TO THE POLICE. SOME MAGAZINES COST UP TO TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS. SOME ANTIQUE MAGAZINES ARE VALUED AT TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS OR MORE. IF A

BILL #  
1094

JOHN  
BARRY

**WHY I OWN A GUN**

ONE WARM SUMMER EVENING YEARS AGO A HUGE ODDLY DRESSED MAN KNOCKED ON MY SCREEN DOOR. HE ANNOUNCED THAT HE WAS ON A WEEKEND PASS FROM SOMERS PRISON AND HE WANTED TO COME IN AND USE THE PHONE. I SAID THAT I WOULD MAKE THE CALL FOR HIM AND HE POLITELY WAITED OUTSIDE WHILE I DID, BUT HE DIDN'T HAVE TO. HE OUTWEIGHED ME BY ABOUT A HUNDRED POUNDS OF MUSCLE AND HE COULD HAVE RIPPED THAT SCREEN DOOR OFF ITS HINGES AND TOSSED ME ASIDE LIKE A FOOTBALL. MY WIFE AND OUR NEW BABY WERE IN THE LIVING ROOM AND SHE OBSERVED THE INCIDENT. THE NEXT DAY SHE ASKED ME TO BUY A GUN SO THAT SHE COULD PROTECT HERSELF AND THE BABY WHEN SHE WAS HOME ALONE. SHE IS A NURSE AND THIS WAS NOT AN EASY CHOICE FOR HER. I BOUGHT HER THE MOST CAPABLE GUN I COULD AFFORD BECAUSE MY WIFE AND CHILDREN ARE PRECIOUS TO ME AND I WANTED TO GIVE HER EVERY ADVANTAGE IF A DANGEROUS SITUATION OCCURRED. WE LIVE NEXT TO A HIGHWAY AND OVER THE YEARS A LOT OF PEOPLE HAVE COME TO OUR FRONT DOOR. MOST ARE DRUNKS WHO CRASHED UP THEIR CARS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT. SOME OF THEM WERE VERY VERY INSISTENT ABOUT COMING INSIDE. RECENTLY THE POLICE ENDED UP CHASING A GROUP OF THEM AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD. THANKFULLY WE HAVE NEVER HAD TO USE THE GUN TO DEFEND OURSELVES BUT WE ARE JUST AS THANKFUL TO HAVE THE PROTECTION IT GIVES US. WE HAVE A RIGHT TO DEFEND OUR LIVES AND NOBODY HAS THE RIGHT TO COMPROMISE OUR ABILITY TO DO SO.

**WHAT IS A CLASS D FELONY?**

I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT A CLASS D FELONY WAS SO I LOOKED IT UP ON THE STATE'S WEBSITE (WWW.CGA.CT.GOV). PROPOSED BILL 1094 CREATES A NEW CLASS D FELONY FOR NOT SURRENDERING YOUR PERSONAL PROPERTY TO THE POLICE. EXISTING CLASS D FELONIES INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING: (I HAVE PARAPHRASED THE TEXT OF THE LAWS TO SAVE TIME AND I WON'T READ THE CHAPTER AND SECTION NUMBERS OF THE LAWS BUT I HAVE THEM WRITTEN HERE.)

IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER, CLASS D FELONIES INCLUDE:

- CHAPTER 952 – PENAL CODE
- 53a-60 SECOND DEGREE ASSAULT
- 53a-60a SECOND DEGREE ASSAULT WITH A FIREARM
- 53a-61aa FIRST DEGREE THREATENING
- 53a-66bb SECOND DEGREE STRANGULATION
- 53a-73a FOURTH DEGREE SEXUAL ASSAULT
- 53a-95 FIRST DEGREE UNLAWFUL RESTRAINT
- 53a-103a THIRD DEGREE BURGLARY WITH A FIREARM
- 53a-130a IMPERSONATING A POLICE OFFICER
- 53a-136 THIRD DEGREE ROBBERY

L CFJ

TEN ROUND MAGAZINE CANNOT BE SUBSEQUENTLY PURCHASED THAT FITS THE GUN IT IS RENDERED WORTHLESS AND THE BUYER SUFFERS A TOTAL LOSS OF HIS PURCHASE PRICE PLUS THE SALES TAX. THE STATE SHOULD BE LIABLE FOR MONEY DAMAGES IN SUCH A CASE AND SHOULD BE FORCED TO BUY A NEW GUN FOR THE PURCHASER. I WONDER HOW MUCH THE TAXPAYERS WOULD LIKE SPENDING MILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO REIMBURSE THE THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE DAMAGED BY THIS BILL, ESPECIALLY BECAUSE **THIS BILL WILL NOT REDUCE CRIME.**

**RAISED BILL 1094 WILL NOT REDUCE CRIME.**  
THE FIRST REACTION OF EVERYONE I HAVE MENTIONED THIS BILL TO IS THAT THE CRIMINALS WILL STILL HAVE GUNS WITH HIGH CAPACITY MAGAZINES AND I HAVE TO AGREE. GOVERNMENT STUDIES SHOW THAT AT LEAST 40% OF GUNS USED BY FELONS WERE OBTAINED ILLEGALLY. THIS PROPOSED LAW WILL ONLY INCREASE CRIMINALS' DEMAND FOR STOLEN GUNS FROM OTHER STATES WHICH ALLOW HIGH CAPACITY MAGAZINES. WORSE YET, THOSE SAME STUDIES SHOW THAT 97% OF GUNS USED TO ATTACK POLICE OFFICERS WERE OBTAINED ILLEGALLY.

A FRIEND OF MINE WAS A SOCIAL WORKER WHOSE CLIENTS INCLUDED MEMBERS OF STREET GANGS. A FEW BLOCKS NORTH OF HERE HE SAW ONE OF THEIR GUN SUPPLIERS OPEN THE TRUNK OF HIS CAR TO OFFER STOLEN GUNS FOR SALE AT PRICES STARTING AT TWENTY FIVE DOLLARS. IT WAS EXPLAINED TO HIM THAT THE GUNS WERE ALL STOLEN IN OTHER STATES AND THEN TRANSPORTED ACROSS STATE LINES TO MAKE THEM HARDER TO TRACE. THE GANG MEMBERS LATER TOLD HIM THAT THE TWENTY FIVE DOLLAR GUNS HAD PROBABLY ALL BEEN USED IN MURDERS, HENCE THE LOW PRICE. THE GUN SUPPLIER'S MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE GATHERED AROUND THE TRUNK OF HIS CAR WAS THIS, "IF YOU DON'T SEE WHAT YOU WANT HERE I CAN GET YOU ANYTHING YOU WANT." THIS BILL WILL KEEP HIM AND OTHERS LIKE HIM BUSY FOR YEARS TO COME.

IF REDUCING CRIME IS THE GOAL, SPEND SOME MONEY TO ENFORCE THE MANY GUN LAWS WE ALREADY HAVE.

**USING A GUN WITH A LARGE CAPACITY MAGAZINE FOR SELF DEFENSE INCREASES THE ODDS THAT A PERSON WILL SURVIVE A VIOLENT ASSAULT.**

ONE THIRD OF AGGRAVATED ASSAULTS AND ROBBERIES INVOLVE MORE THAN ONE ASSAILANT. A LAW ABIDING CITIZEN WHO IS BEING ATTACKED DESERVES EVERY ADVANTAGE TO HELP HIM SURVIVE. THIS PROPOSED LAW GIVES THE ADVANTAGE TO THE CRIMINALS WHO WILL HAVE CONTINUED EASY ACCESS TO GUNS WITH HIGH CAPACITY MAGAZINES STOLEN FROM OTHER STATES.

4 of 5

53a-136 THIRD DEGREE ROBBERY  
53a-181c STALKING  
53a-212 STEALING A FIREARM  
53a-217c CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF A FIREARM BY A FELON

CHAPTER 529 - DIVISION OF STATE POLICE  
29-33a SELLING A FIREARM TO A CONVICTED FELON  
29-33h THERE IS AN EXCEPTION FOR SOMEONE WHO SELLS A FIREARM TO A CONVICTED FELON THAT ALLOWS A JUDGE THE OPTION OF SUSPENDING PROSECUTION IF HE FEELS THE VIOLATION IS NOT SERIOUS AND THE PERSON HAS NO PREVIOUS VIOLATIONS. PROPOSED LAW 1094 OFFERS NO SUCH PROTECTION TO FIRST TIME OFFENDERS.

THE LAST CLASS D FELONY I WILL LIST IS CERTAINLY NOT THE LEAST AMONG THEM. I WILL GIVE THE CITE FOR THIS LAW BECAUSE I HAD TO READ IT THREE TIMES TO BELIEVE IT.

CHAPTER 16 - GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
2-1e(C) IT IS A CLASS D FELONY TO BRING ANY "EXPLOSIVE OR INCENDIARY DEVICE" (IN OTHER WORDS A BOMB) INTO ANY BUILDING IN WHICH THE CHAMBER OF EITHER HOUSE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IS LOCATED OR ANY BUILDING IN WHICH A COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IS HOLDING A PUBLIC HEARING. IN OTHER WORDS IT IS A CLASS D FELONY TO BRING A BOMB INTO THIS ROOM DURING THIS MEETING.

BY ATTEMPTING TO MAKE THE POSSESSION OF A LARGE CAPACITY MAGAZINE A CLASS D FELONY, THE AUTHOR OF RAISED BILL 1094 ATTEMPTS TO EQUATE IT WITH THE VIOLENT CLASS D FELONIES I JUST LISTED SUCH AS ASSAULT, STRANGULATION, SEXUAL ASSAULT AND USING A BOMB TO TRY AND BLOW UP EVERYONE IN THIS ROOM. ANYONE WHO VOTES IN FAVOR OF THIS BILL IS EXPRESSING AGREEMENT WITH THIS COMPARISON. TRY CONVINCING EVEN A CHILD THAT PLANTING A BOMB IN A ROOM FULL OF PEOPLE IS THE SAME AS OWNING A STEEL TUBE WITH A SPRING IN IT THAT HOLDS BULLETS.

THE CLASS D FELONIES LISTED ABOVE HAVE ONE THING IN COMMON, THEY ARE ACTIVE CRIMES. YOU HAVE TO ROB, ASSAULT, STRANGLE OR SEXUALLY ASSAULT SOMEBODY OR TRY TO BLOW UP THE STATE LEGISLATURE. IF I WENT HOME AFTER THIS MEETING AND WENT TO BED AND STAYED ASLEEP FOR THE NEXT FOUR MONTHS LIKE RIP VAN WINKLE, AND IF THIS LAW PASSED WHILE I WAS ASLEEP, ON JULY FIRST THE POLICE COULD KNOCK DOWN MY FRONT DOOR, WAKE ME UP AND PUT ME IN A PRISON CELL WITH SOMEBODY WHO TRIED TO BLOW UP THE STATE LEGISLATURE. DOES THAT SEEM FAIR? IS THAT A GOOD USE OF TAXPAYER DOLLARS? WITH THE PRESENT PRISON OVERCROWDING

5 of 5

WHAT TYPE OF CRIMINAL WOULD THEY HAVE TO EARLY RELEASE TO MAKE SPACE FOR ME? WHAT WILL THEY DO WHEN THEY GET OUT?

FINALLY I WOULD LIKE YOU TO CONSIDER THIS FACT. AFTER WORLD WAR TWO THE UNITED STATES ASKED THE JAPANESE MILITARY'S HIGH COMMAND WHY THEY DIDN'T INVADE THE UNITED STATES AFTER THEY BOMBED PEARL HARBOR. THEIR REPLY WAS THAT "THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN A GUN BEHIND EVERY BLADE OF GRASS". THEY KNEW THAT AMERICANS WERE WELL ARMED AND THAT IS WHAT SAVED US FROM A BLOODY INVASION. WITH SO MANY COUNTRIES AND SO MANY TERRORISTS WHO HATE US TODAY, HAVING A POPULATION THAT IS ABLE TO DEFEND ITSELF EFFECTIVELY IS NOT A BAD THING. PLEASE DON'T UNDERCUT OUR ABILITY TO DO SO BY PASSING RAISED BILL 1094.

ALL THE LEGAL PROTECTIONS BUILT INTO ALL OF OUR LAWS HAVE ONE COMMON THEME AND IT IS THAT NINETY NINE GUILTY PEOPLE SHOULD BE SET FREE RATHER THAN PUNISH ONE INNOCENT PERSON. RAISED BILL 1094 PUNISHES NINETY NINE INNOCENT PEOPLE IN ORDER TO STOP ONE GUILTY PERSON. HOW CAN THAT BE JUSTIFIED?

THANK YOU

END