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My name is Philip Cypher, I am here today in OPPOSITION to SB1017 AN ACT CONSOLIDATING STATE AGENCIES AND ELIMINATING CERTAIN LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONS; in particular to the provision that would transfer operations of the Board of Firearm Permit Examiners (BFPE) to the Department of Public Safety.

The Board of Firearms Permit Examiners consists of 7 unpaid volunteers and a secretary. Placing the Board under DPS would require the DPS to hire additional personnel in order to properly support the work of the BFPE further costing the taxpayers and the State additional funds. How is this a savings?.

The removal of this currently independent board will make it harder for law-abiding gun owners to regain their pistol permits if they have been revoked or denied without proper cause. On January 14, 2010 the BFPE issued a Declaratory Ruling that anything not specifically called out in the CT state statues is NOT necessary when applying for a permit. Many issuing authorities in Connecticut still and have for years taken it upon themselves to ask for "EXTRA" information from applicants applying for their permit to carry pistols and revolvers. As examples the requiring of letters of recommendation, credit checks and telling applicants there is longer than an 8 week waiting period. How are we to trust the DPS of overseeing themselves when they have proven over the years that they are to not be trusted tin these areas.

I ask this board to vote in opposition to SB1017 ... to help protect the rights of Connecticut's law abiding citizens.

Thank you for your time and consideration.