



Every citizen has a right
to bear arms in defense
of himself and the state.

Connecticut State Constitution, Section 15

Connecticut Citizen's Defense League, Inc.

Public Safety and Security Committee, February 10, 2011

OPPOSE:

SB 42 An act concerning gun safety standards for firing ranges

HB 6185 An act creating a gun offender registry

SUPPORT:

HB 5263 An act authorizing renewal of state permit to carry a pistol or revolver by mail.

HB 5270 An act authorizing renewal of state permit to carry a pistol or revolver by mail or by electronic submission

Chairwoman Hartley and Chairman Dargan, and the members of the Public Safety and Security Committee, my name is Virginia Benedetto from Stratford, CT. I am a founding and Executive member, and the Technology Coordinator of the Connecticut Citizens Defense League, Inc.

SB 42 An act concerning gun safety standards for firing ranges

While I am for gun safety standards at any venue, I find the lack of text in the bill concerning, as there is no detail as to what safety standards would be set. Being an avid shooter, I have attended many clubs and ranges that adhere to certain safety standards, that I also practice on my own as a safe shooter. Not knowing what type of standards would be set could possibly present undue burden on some clubs and ranges that is unnecessary. Until further wording is introduced and clarified, I must oppose this bill.

HB 6185 An act creating a gun offender registry.

What public safety value is gained by a gun offender registry? This would be an unnecessary burden on the town police to maintain a registry of people that at one time were convicted of a 'gun crime'. While 'gun crime' in this bill is not defined, being convicted of a gun crime does not necessarily make one a threat to society, while violent criminals use weapons of all kinds (not just guns), and would only be on this registry if they were convicted of a 'gun crime'. I see no reason or benefit to the citizens of CT for a registry of this kind, therefore I oppose this bill.

HB 5263 An act authorizing renewal of state permit to carry a pistol or revolver by mail.,

HB 5270 An act authorizing renewal of state permit to carry a pistol or revolver by mail or by electronic submission

Either of these bills could save the state money by allowing pistol permit holders to send in required renewal documents to be processed, and save any confusion in the renewal process. Just as the DMV has recently made changes to bring their offices into the "21st century" (by eliminating stickers and reducing renewal mailings, to a cost savings of about \$800,000 annually), I believe the pistol permit renewal process would benefit both state and customers by allowing renewals by mail.

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