



CT Against Gun Violence

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Testimony to the Public Safety & Security Committee
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CT Against Gun Violence (CAGV) supports Proposed House Bill 5800 and opposes Proposed House Bill 5643.

CAGV supports Proposed House Bill 5800 which would require registration of all firearms.

Registration laws provide a cornerstone of responsible gun policy because they: 1) furnish law enforcement with essential information about firearm ownership, facilitating fast and reliable tracing of crime guns; and 2) reduce illegal firearm sales by creating accountability for gun owners.

Hawaii has a system that requires registration of all firearms including a requirement that every person who brings a firearm into the state must register the firearm within three days of arrival. This requirement has the additional benefit of limiting trafficking of firearms from out of state. The registration certificate must be returned for any firearm which has been lost, stolen, destroyed, or otherwise disposed of or transferred. The system works well and Hawaii has by far the lowest rate of gun deaths per 100,000 population in the nation.

CAGV opposes Proposed House Bill 5643 which would allow out of state residents to carry firearms in our state. The bill would allow residents of other states who do not qualify to carry a gun in CT to do so if they are permitted in their home state. Thirty-six states allow gun owners to carry guns outside their residence or office who only meet minimum statutory requirements, unlike CT where a permit is issued only after a determination of suitability by local law enforcement. HB 5643 would allow unqualified out of state residents to carry guns in our state while forbidding CT residents to do so.