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## Connecticut Citizens Defense League, Inc.

Support Raised Bill 5245

2/28/2012

Chairwoman Hartley, Chairman Dargan and members of the Public Safety and Security Committee, my name is Leonard Benedetto. I am a resident of Stratford and I am the Vice President and a Founding Member of the Connecticut Citizens Defense League (CCDL). We are the largest Grassroots Pro 2A organization in Connecticut with 2000+ members to date and I am testifying in

### Support of:

### Raised Bill 5245

### **AN ACT CONCERNING THE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR A TEMPORARY STATE PERMIT TO CARRY A PISTOL OR REVOLVER.**

I would like to start by thanking Representative Sampson for sponsoring this bill.

In my position for CCDL I hear stories all the time, from people that are being asked for "EXTRA" information by their local issuing authorities that is not required by the state. They have also been asked to sign release forms allowing them to delve much deeper into the candidates background then required. Some of this "EXTRA" information is absolutely an invasion of privacy that carries no bearing on whether or not the applicant is an acceptable candidate to be issued a permit.

Things like:

**Credit Checks** which in today's economy and with unemployment still at an all time high may disqualify a law abiding citizen in the eyes of these local issuing authorities.

**Physical Health Background** checks which serves no purpose what so ever!

**Employer Interviews** which does nothing but tell your employer, what you do in your spare time, which is none of their business.

**Neighbor Interviews** which now notifies your neighbors that while you are not home that there are firearms in your house. In some neighborhoods this is not a smart thing.

**Three Letters of Reference (Notarized)** this does nothing but add more effort to the task for the applicant and increase the cost to them.

**Passport Photos** again another added step and cost to the applicant.

Even with the issues I discussed, fixed by this bill, unfortunately, there are still numerous other ways that local issuing authorities continue to Impede and delay the process for law abiding citizens.

In closing, this bill is absolutely a step in the right direction and I ask you all to vote **YES** on 5245

Thank You,

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

Connecticut State Constitution, Article First, Section 15