

# CONNECTICUT CARRY, INC

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President  
Connecticut Carry, Inc  
229 Branford Rd Unit 423  
North Branford, CT 06471

Committee on Public Safety and Security

Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my opposition to the modifications to Connecticut General Statute 53-206d that are contained in Senate Bill 64.

This bill contains language that changes the blood to alcohol content ratio allowable by law while a permitted individual is carrying a firearm or while they are hunting. This bill looks to make criminals out of law abiding citizens who wish to carry a firearm for self defense for simply being over an arbitrary limit. It would make criminals out of people that would not be criminals under the law currently and are not currently infringing on the rights or safety of anyone. The State of Connecticut already has more than significant penalties under the law against the misuse of a firearm while carrying it, including jail time, financial liability and permanent loss of the right to bear arms.

Changing an arbitrary limit such as this one only serves to ensnare law abiding people who have unknowingly passed an arbitrary number that they cannot see and that will not necessarily even change their behavior. Being found guilty of violating this arbitrary limit can result in the temporary or permanent loss of the right to bear arms for protection of self and state with no victim to the crime and no actual misbehavior on the part of the convicted person.

Another significant issue with this bill from the standpoint of Connecticut Carry is that through this bill, the legislature seeks to expand the rights of the SPBI delay eligibility certificates an extra sixty days when the SPBI should be returning the national background check as close to instantly as the FBI returns these checks. The FBI takes 48 hours or less through and automated system and the SPBI should do the same. The FBI background check is well known and renowned around the country for the purchase, sale and carry of firearms. NCIC checks are performed an average of 7.5 million times a day and are handled instantly in gun stores all across the state and country every day.

The legislature should be looking to expedite the SPBI and DPS in the issuing of permits, not giving them excuses for taking longer. Already we have a 12-14 week backlog while SPBI sits on background checks that have been returned completed from the FBI. We recommend that a deadline is put into place that limits the SPBI's turnaround time on these checks to 5 business days just like the time limits on the rest of the process. We also recommend that civil penalties be put in place to prevent abuse of this system by both the state and local issuing authorities.

This bill would add an extra sixty day burden to a process that already hinders a human right. Please join with Connecticut Carry in helping to enact the proper changes to the Connecticut General Statutes that Connecticut Carry has submitted to the Committee on Public Safety and Security.

Connecticut Carry endeavors to be dedicated to advancing and protecting the fundamental civil rights of the men and women of Connecticut to keep and bear arms for self defense of themselves and the state as guaranteed by the United States Constitution and the Constitution of Connecticut.

Respectfully,



Richard Burgess

President

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