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I am providing testimony of **support** on the following bills:

S.B. No. 196 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECORDING OF PISTOL AND REVOLVER SALES IN A BOUND BOOK.

H.B. No. 5246 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE PERMIT TO SELL PISTOLS OR REVOLVERS

H.B. No. 5245 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR A TEMPORARY STATE PERMIT TO CARRY A PISTOL OR REVOLVER.

I have extensive knowledge for the concept as proposed in HB 5245 and will comment on this last.

S.B. No. 196 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECORDING OF PISTOL AND REVOLVER SALES IN A BOUND BOOK.

Simply put, this just reduces already redundant paperwork. The Bureau of Alcohol, Firearms, Tobacco and Explosives already requires a similar log be kept and available for inspection. It seems rather redundant that our state require yet another log to be maintained (with the same data). I purchased a firearm last year and there was an issue with the log and I had to spend half a day to return to the business where it was purchased just to fill something out that is already kept in another book. This was a complete waste of time. I see nothing in federal statutes that says this book can't be made available to any state or municipal government for inspection. It seems that this is one of those "no brainer" bills that just increases efficiency.

H.B. No. 5246 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE PERMIT TO SELL PISTOLS OR REVOLVERS

The key change to this bill would be the following statement:

The premises of any meeting or exhibition of an organized collectors' group or any gun show, as defined in section 29-37g, shall be deemed an extension of the room, store or place described in the permit

Quite frankly, these are some of the most honest firearms transactions you will ever find. A great deal of the firearms for sale at these events are not "gang banger" types firearms. These are collectable firearms with significant historical or sporting value and most likely next to zero value on the street.

As someone who regularly attends "gun shows", I find long arms and antique pistols that are not only very old, but with ammunition that isn't easily available. These firearms really are not a problem for gang violence and should be allowed for sale at shows or collectors group.

H.B. No. 5245 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR A TEMPORARY STATE PERMIT TO CARRY A PISTOL OR REVOLVER.

This is a very "hot button" topic for me as I have had issues with a local issuing authority. Not because of my background, not because I have a criminal past, but simply for a town that refused to follow statutes passed by past legislatures.

Statutory guidelines state that the permit process should take no longer than 60 days and even less when certain time criteria are met. Middletown took eleven months. What's worse, the level of deception was completely unacceptable. I was given paperwork with a number to call when ready to submit. I would call this number time and again, leave a message, and get no response. The name on the paperwork matched the name on the voicemail. 9 months later, turns out someone else processes permit paperwork. Not a bad telephone number, simply what is referred to as a "dead letter" box. Leave a message, and sure enough, nobody will ever listen to it.

Combine this with my background investigation. The town wanted three letters of references (completely useless as I would obviously use people that know me and not supply a bad reference). Officers came out to interview my neighbors. One knew me for 25 years, the other only 4. The elderly neighbor that knew me had no problems. The other neighbor was habitual drug user, convicted prostitute and usually on arrest at least 4 times a year. This was who Middletown PD was using as a neighbor character witness. Incompetence at the highest level.

I did get my permit without denial (after I finally applied for a hearing with the Board of Firearms Permit Examiners). After my experience, I started asking around and found out that others in the state had similar, if not worse experiences. This prompted me to start a website called www.ctpistolpermitissues.com. On this website, you will find information I have gathered on more than 1/3 of the state of CT. I'm going to attach a copy of the issues on this website we have found to date. Actual copies of paperwork is available for download on that site (or if I am contacted, I can meet with any legislator that has more questions).

What is worse, when the CT Special Licensing Firearms Unit is notified of a town not following statute, they WILL NOT inform the town of their wrongdoing. There is no penalty for a local issuing authority who does not comply with the law.

I attend all the CT Board of Firearms Permit Examiners hearings. It is no surprise that there is an incredible waste of time here as well with regards to permit denials. Almost two thirds of denials are overturned because the local issuing authority has failed to comply with statutory guidelines.

Again, I ask for your support on this bill so we can clean up the vast amount of inconsistencies with our local issuing authorities. These inconsistencies only end up costing citizens money in hearings and paying for officers to attend hearings that are ultimately overturned in the appellants favor.

Attached are my grades for towns I have received so far and I'm available if anyone has any questions. I can always be contacted on my website or via email.

Town	Grade	Issues	How many?	Details
Beacon Falls	B	Yes	2	recent photograph and 3 letters of reference. Odd, since it is a Resident Trooper that completes the paperwork/investigation.
Berlin	A	No		
Bloomfield	A-	Yes	1	Utility bill to establish residency
Bristol	B	Yes	1	Pictures
Brookfield	A	No		
Canaan	C	Yes	3	\$80.00 town fee (I think the max is \$70.00), 3 letters, NRA course expires in 5 years (it never expires).
Cornwall	B	Yes	1	3 letters, one from your present employer;
Derby	A	No		
East Hampton	B	Yes	1	Town states police chief determines what reasonable time training certification. NRA certification does not expire.
Essex	A-	Yes	1	3 letters, but Essex at least says they are optional.
Fairfield	B	Yes	1?	Depending on interpretation. utility bill or drivers license. Passport photo.
Farmington	F	Yes	3	States resident or business owner must have been in Farmington for 90 days (I must verify the legality of this, but the F still stands for the waiver mentioned below), WAIVER waiver for criminal background. The PD has access to any criminal background information they need.
Glastonbury	A-	Yes	1	Passport photo. Odd checklist form, but nothing major.
Goshen	B	Yes	1	3 letters
Granby	D	Yes	4	3 letters, passport photo, questionable extra \$70.00 check for the town and extra information sheet (Pg. 2) that asks for social security, scars, marks, tattoos and other info already available on the application
Groton	A	No		No issues on paper.
Hamden	B-	Yes	2	Both minor, local town paperwork (really small) and passport photo.
Hartford	F	Yes	7+	Invasive release form, that form needs notary, passport photo, proof of residency (beyond drivers license, multiple articles), additional fingerprint fee, additional notary list - for their letter? , credit info, medical/psychiatric info.
Killingworth	C	Yes	2	pictures, odd character reference form.
Litchfield	A *	No		* This is a town where a resident trooper does the process properly.
Manchester	B	Yes	1	Charges additional fingerprinting fee of \$25.00
Meriden	B	Yes	1	Additional town permit application
Middletown	B-	Yes	2	pictures, 3 letters "requested"
Monroe	C	Yes	2	3 reference letters, passport photo
Naugatuck	A	No		Paperwork has no issues. I question the demanding of your permanent permit check up front.
New Britain	C-	Yes	2+	pictures, information form with social security, physical information, permit instructor phone number
New Haven	F	Yes	3+	Passport photo, additional New Haven app (notarized), Authorization for release of personal information
Newington	B	Yes	1	10 weeks to investigate. Declaratory ruling states 8 weeks.
New London	C	Yes	3	Passport photo, copy of instructors "NRA Card", 3 letters with contact info
Norfolk	A	No		
North Branford	B	Yes	1	3 letters.
North Haven; second form	B-	Yes	2	Separate town application with marital info, current firearm inventory and vehicle information; passport photo,
Norwalk	F	Yes	SEVERAL	utility bill, passport photo, Identification form (ID Form asks for INSANE information)

Town	Grade	Issues	How many?	Details
Norwich	B	Yes	1	"may" ask for copy of instructors certification card.
Old Saybrook	A	No		Odd wording of temporary vs permanent and renewals on the top of the memo
Orange	C	Yes	2	Proof of residency (tax bill, utility bill), extra notary requirements (raised seal),
Plainfield	B	Yes	1	Application process takes 8-12 weeks. Sixty days per statute.
Plymouth	A	No		
Preston	A	No		
Ridgefield	B-	Yes	2	Passport photos and they state the time of the process as starting when the interview is done. The time actually starts when the application is submitted per state statute.
Salisbury	F	Yes	SEVERAL	Medical records release, 3 character references (on their own form), 8-10 week turnaround.
Seymour	F	Yes	SEVERAL	"SPD Pistol Permit Waiver Form - they want to contact your present or past employer and notarize that you give them permission. . Self addressed stamped envelope, 8-14 weeks to process.
Sharon	B	Yes	1	3 letters
Shelton	A-	Yes	1	Instructor ID #, not a biggie, but not required under state law.
Simsbury	F	2		Extra information form with sensitive questions and a hold harmless release waiver.
Somers	B	2		Copy of instructors certification and allow up to 10 weeks (statute is 8 sixty days).
Southbury	C	Yes	3+	Actually reasonable by some town standards, but issues include: 3 letters, passport photo, how long a Southbury resident?, and an odd note about how you can be disqualified based on DMV violations. Mind you, these violations are being processed by a resident STATE trooper. Also, form seems to be outdated, old fee structure.
Southington	B	Yes	1	3 letters MUST accompany application.
Stamford	C	Yes	2	They REQUIRE a separate form to be filled out with quite a bit of detail from the NRA or course instructor (not required by statute) and Stamford will take a digital photograph.
Stonington	A-	Yes	1	I don't have many issues per se with Stonington. Their app does have some odd wording about their investigation and interviews and also a list of misdemeanors for disqualification. All in all, OK.
Stratford	C	Yes	2	Passport photo, one year expiration of NRA certification. NRA training does not expire.
Torrington	C	Yes	3	3 letters, extra \$25.00 fee for fingerprints, approx. 8-12 weeks time on app,
Trumbull	A-?			Passport photo. Question mark because cover letter seems outdated (2009) and has some wrong permit fees.
Vernon	C	Yes	2	Notary must have raised seal (not required in CT per Secretary of the State), extra \$10.00 fingerprint fee.
Wallingford	B	Yes	1	8-12 weeks to process
Waterbury	C	Yes	3	Requires NRA instructor contact information, 3 letters, proof of residency,
West Hartford	F	Yes	Several	Supplemental form, notarized, asking for blanket permission to contact anyone and also permission to for "checking references, past criminal activities, employment history, credit checks, obtaining motor vehicle history and educational background."

Town	Grade	Issues	How many?	Details
Wethersfield	A	No		
Windsor Locks	A	No		
Woodbridge	F	Yes	3	3 letters, notarized Commissioner of Mental Health waiver, supplemental information form
Woodstock	A	No		