



NATIONAL SHOOTING SPORTS FOUNDATION, INC.

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JAKE McGUIGAN
DIRECTOR,
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

February 28, 2012

Public Safety and Security Committee
Legislative Office Building
Room 2E
Hartford, CT 06106

Position: **Support**

Re: SB 196 - An Act Concerning the Recording of Pistol and Revolver Sales in a Bound Book.

Dear Members of the Public Safety and Security Committee:

The National Shooting Sports Foundation (“NSSF”) is the non-profit trade association for America’s firearms, ammunition, hunting and recreational shooting sports industry. Our manufacturer members make the firearms used by law-abiding Connecticut sportsmen, the U.S. military and law enforcement agencies throughout Connecticut. This letter is to express our **support** of SB 196.

I am writing on behalf of our Connecticut based members, which includes federally licensed firearms retailers, most of which are small independent businesses that are the backbone of the state’s economy. Our small business owners know firsthand how regulations, however well intentioned, can have a significant adverse financial impact on a business. Currently, Connecticut retailers are some of the most heavily regulated firearms dealers in the nation. Retailers are required to comply with some of the nation’s most stringent set of rules and regulations governing the lawful commerce of handguns.

The current law requires retailers to duplicate their efforts and keep a separate bound book for the sale of handguns. There is no justifiable reason for them to keep this information when there are already federal requirements to keep a bound book for all firearms transactions and also to file every Form 4473 for 20 years. There is nothing in the state required bound book that makes it necessary, it simply creates more paperwork for a highly regulated industry and the opportunity to make more mistakes.

The financial burden that is created by this requirement and others makes it increasingly more difficult for law-abiding retailers to continue their livelihood, create jobs and tax revenue for the state. Connecticut’s firearm retailers are not the cause of the criminal misuse of firearms.

We would urge you to support SB 196 and allow the small businesses that Connecticut depends on for revenue to work efficiently.

Sincerely,

Jake McGuigan