
richclvt@cox.net
Friday, March 22, 2013 8:15 AM
AppropriationTestimony
richclvt@cox.net
SB-307 & HB-5561 Testimony

Richard C. Clavet
Cheshire, CT 06410

March 22, 2013

Appropriations Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 2C
Hartford, CT 06106

Honorable Members:

I strongly support the following bill proposals

- SB-307 (AN ACT PROVIDING FUNDING FOR THE STATE-WIDE FIREARMS TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE)
- HB-5561 (AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING FOR THE STATE-WIDE FIREARMS TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE)

After submitting a number of written testimonies to the L.O.B. opposing bill proposals attempting to impose over-reaching authority on law abiding citizens, it is refreshing to see a number of bills I can support.

It is regrettable that the state legislature has allowed this important arm of the Dept. of Emergency Services & Public Protection (DESPP) to almost starve itself out of existence due to lack of funding over the last few years. Coupled with the attrition of state police personnel, this department is currently ill equipped to be able to monitor or investigate illicit gun activity. It is my belief that with the appropriate funding this department working in concert with the State-Wide Cooperative Crime Control Task Force can make significant inroads into reducing violent gun crime in this state. By focusing on our major urban areas – Hartford, New Haven, Bridgeport and Stamford – I believe violent gun crime statistics in our state could be reduced by 75% in a short period of time.

I commend Senator Guglielmo's effort in reviving the refunding of this department and recognize that these are funding dollars that are actually effective in improving general public safety.

I appreciate the opportunity to present my perspective to this committee, appreciate the efforts of our state legislators and am hopeful that a sensible conclusion is eminent.

Thank you