

For the Environment Committee, concerning HR Bill #6541-hearing on Friday March 8, 2013,

It has been brought to my attention by Safe Boating America, (a training agency from which I took my safe boating course in a classroom, 2 years ago), that the State of Connecticut considering to hold online training for hunting safety and boating safety. I strongly oppose any move to make available "online" training for either boating or hunting safety training. With all the talk in Connecticut lately about gun violence/tragedy, why would we in the name of safety and accountability even propose to let a computer teach people such critical skills such as those of operating a boat or even as far as firing a rifle or hunting bow. It is critical that we hold people accountable for their actions: Institute stronger person to person training, in which trainers, not computers give out certificates of acceptable completion of course. We would never think of online driver training in which people who have never been in a vehicle before can go online and get educated about driving and thus receive an actual drivers license. Lets get serious and unbiased about the things we pay attention to. If we lack seriousness about training people in person in live time, we can only expect more accidents, tragedy and lives lost and this includes boating operation and hunting safety. The time is now for serious concern for our fellow citizens and training them thoroughly in person and to move away from half baked ideas of training folks on computers for serious issues such as these. If we aim to preserve peoples rights and freedoms lets stay with face to face classroom training that holds people more accountable and further educates them in a hands on way. Im not willing to stand down and take the side of online training, because when it fails and we have more accidents and tragedies, the claim will be made that it didn't work and its aim will possibly be to say "well boats and hunting are too dangerous now we need to take them out of the hands of the American citizens." Lets get serious and back to God/Jesus Christ the one who our founding fathers had faith and trust in when we were providentially given this nation at its inception. We all love our freedoms in this nation, but every day greed, corruption and political agendas, strip those rights from us daily. I urge those of this committee not to make it easier to obtain these critical certificates, by using online training to acquire them. It is my sincere hope that you consider these thoughts and do the right thing for the safety and accountability of the people of this great land.

Thank you

Respectfully

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