

Senator Edward Meyer, Representative Linda M. Gentile and the Environmental Committee,

Concerning HR Bill # 6541 hearing on Friday March 8, 2013.

Through a relative in Connecticut I have heard about this Bill that will allow boater and firearms to become approved on-line courses. Though I am not a citizen in your state, I do feel compelled to weigh in on this issue. I oppose this bill because it does not make sense.

I took a classroom course for boater safety and found it to be valuable in many ways that an on-line program would fall short. Specifically the interactions between the presenter/teacher and those of us taking the courses. The give and take even during break times was important. My girls who also took the course still speak about talking with "the lady" sitting next to them about boating & what is important to do and not what to do. I have taken many on-line courses for personal and professional reasons and know their value, but when it comes to Boater and Firearms Safety, I do not believe on-line suffices. Someone compared it to Drivers-Ed and that is what made me see the absurdity of Firearm and Boater Safety courses on-line. With a daughter currently involved in Drivers-Ed, I hate the thought her and her friends doing this on-line. It made me shudder to think of the future when Boater and Firearm Safety may be presented outside the learning opportunities of face to face.

I am not a firearms person, but in the face of the recent horrors of Sandy Hook, it is hard to imagine any sort of mere on-line firearm safety course. Simply stated, makes no sense to me, hopefully it makes no sense to you and the committee.

Best Regards,  
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