

To whom it may concern,

From a very young age I was taught, in person, by NRA experts how to handle firearms. From a very young age I was also taught how to handle boats by experts, in person. While still in grade school, a very fine grade school, I was tested on my reading comprehension. I tested at the very top of the country then and years later in prep school with similar results. I learned how to shoot, how to sail and operate boats and how to read and comprehend what I was reading.

To think that my reading skills, which are not perfect, are at the top of the heap in this country causes me pause when considering this bill # 6541. It is not because a hunting license will kill more people or that a "safe boating certificate" will kill more people, but that to award or encourage these potentially deadly activities without personal, emphatic instruction in light of the multiple deaths on Long Island Sound from boating accidents this last season alone and the shooting deaths of the Newtown School just a couple of months ago is just NUTS! The idea that the folks that go on line to gain a license to hunt or boat based on their ability to comprehend what they are reading online, without expert, personal instruction is, in my mind, a poor judge of what people retain and assume when they read, especially on line, alone.

Please see to it that expert, personal instruction is guaranteed in both of these activities before the State of Connecticut allows a hunting license and/or a safe boating certificate to be issued to any individual.

DO NOT pass bill # 6541

Yours, Most Sincerely, "Safe Boating is No Accident"

Ian Macmillan

Long Island Sound Centennial Classic Yacht Champion, Long Island Sound Yacht Racing Association, Connecticut State Harbo