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From: Susan D'Agostino <zulufxotrot309@att.net>
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2013 8:09 PM
To: INSTestimony
Subject: HB 6656 (Raised) AN ACT CONCERNING LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR FIREARM POSSESSORS OR OWNERS

March 16, 2013

Dear Members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee;

As a Connecticut citizen and lawful firearms owner and enthusiast, I strongly oppose HB 6656 AAC Liability Insurance for Firearm Possessors or Owners.

This bill would negatively impact only lawful firearms owners, is punitive in nature since the majority of people already hold personal liability insurance under their homeowners or renters insurance policies, gives State or Federal entities a "back door" way to register firearms, all of which I consider to be infringements of our God-given rights under the Constitution and Connecticut Constitution Section 1, Article 15. I would ask all lawmakers to stop all the attempts to erode Constitutional rights. Please uphold both our U.S. Constitution and Connecticut's Constitution.

Citizens usually already carry personal liability insurance under their homeowners or renters policy, making this bill an additional "tax" of sorts.

Most importantly, this new requirement would impact only lawful citizens and not the criminals who are the major cause of the entire gun violence problem. Criminals will most definitely not be purchasing insurance for the use of their illegal firearms! Also in my research I have learned that in the late 1990s violent criminal attacks were perpetrated 70-80% of the time by recidivists who were released back onto the streets- I would bet that in 2013 that percentage is even higher.

I also consider the bill as outright punishment to someone who might have to use a firearm in self defense and wonder why it is that whoever drafted this bill wants to further burden lawful citizens rather than solve the problems of gun violence.

May I suggest that lawmakers focus on growing the economy to provide good jobs and career opportunities for every citizen in Connecticut? This alone would do much to reduce violent crime.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,
Susan D'Agostino
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