

**From:** Allyn2@comcast.net  
**Sent:** Monday, March 18, 2013 8:23 PM  
**To:** INSTestimony  
**Subject:** H.B. No. 6656 (RAISED) INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE . 'AN ACT CONCERNING LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR FIREARM POSSESSORS OR OWNERS',

Dear Legislators,

What everyone fails to realize is that gun control advocates and gun owners all want the same thing – prevent criminals and mentally deranged individuals from obtaining firearms and ultimately protect innocent people's lives. The disagreement is in how this is to be done. Gun Control advocates want to restrict firearm ownership of law abiding citizens with the hope that this will somehow keep guns out of the criminal and mentally deranged hands. Gun control by attrition - which has failed in the past and will continue to fail. Why? Because nothing is done to directly get or keep the guns out of the criminals hands or to recognize and provide treatment (institutions) for the mentally ill which would absolutely reduce gun deaths. Going after the criminals with illegal guns and helping the mentally ill would be a common sense approach that would greatly reduce gun deaths.

FBI statistics actually show that **66%** of all homicides in Connecticut occur is only three (3) locations Bridgeport, Hartford, and New Haven which make up only **14%** of the overall population of Connecticut. Include Stamford and Waterbury and about **80%** of all homicides occur in only five (5) cities that comprise of less than  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the total population. The overwhelming majority of homicides occur with hand guns by criminals who are in illegal possession of a firearm, again *illegal* possession of a firearm. Criminals by far account for the majority of the gun homicides.

**Criminals do not have or apply for pistol permits, do not obey laws, and do not buy from licensed firearm dealers or buy insurance. Criminals do steal their guns or buy on the streets (black markets). If you believe that straw purchasers are the main avenue for criminals to obtain guns, think again. Of course trace data will revert back to a legal gun owner (all sales of new firearms originate from legal owners). The majority of the guns are *stolen* from law abiding citizens and sold on the black market. As a representative from New Haven recently said "every person 14 years old and older knows where to obtain an illegal firearm on the streets.**

Unfortunately, this proposal you are considering is not a common sense gun law and will absolutely not reduce or have any effect on gun homicides in the State of CT. This proposal will only serve to limit law abiding citizens the ability to obtain and own quality firearms to protect their children and loved ones. Once again via gun control by attrition due to the extreme financial burden of this type of insurance. This type of insurance is not currently available and as we have heard estimates are on the \$1,500 to \$2,500 range per year.

Do you really think criminals who account for the majority of gun homicides and violence will obtain insurance? This proposal is very misguided and will only serve to burden law abiding citizens. Please start going after criminals and stop protecting them with these types of proposals.

Please do not restrict law abiding citizens the ability to protect their children and loved ones. We urge you to oppose this proposal

Sincerely,

Concerned Bolton Residents