

Public Safety Hearing
Public Hearing Testimony
Legislative Office Building
300 Capitol Avenue
Room 2C
Hartford, CT 06106

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Middletown, CT, 06457-2438
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Committee Members,

The most egregious bill restricting gun rights and which I believe violates both Connecticut State and our Federal Constitutions is SB 1076. **OPPOSE**

After reading that this bill which:

- Bans commonly owned sporting rifles (AR-15 and other semi-auto variants)
I am a high power rifle competitor- this is an insult to my sport which uses semi-automatic rifles.
- Implements gun rationing of one per month- indiscriminate restriction on purchasing for collection. Limits one's ability to choose several options for self-defense. Why would this be effective in reducing gun crime? Do you really believe that criminals purchase guns at retail?
- Mandates complete registration for ALL firearms- This is not about gun violence reduction it is draconian gun control with further aims at taxation, permits and fees. The aim is to intimidate (infringe) gun ownership.
- Bans standard capacity magazines over 10 rounds and exposes previous lawful purchasers to criminal liability for possession. Isn't there already enough business in the criminal justice system without creating felons out of good citizens?
- The list of abhorrent proposals is just too long to mention. It is no wonder pro-firearm supporters become hardened to compromise; **bills like SB-1076 simply poison the well.** Bill SB-1076 is strong evidence that one cannot trust government to propose "common sense" law.

For the record I also oppose:

SB No. 505- An act concerning the minimum age to purchase a rifle or other long gun. **OPPOSE**

- We do not have a problem with youths abusing long guns for criminal purposes. At 18 you can vote and carry a gun for our country, you should be allowed to purchase one for defense, hunting and shooting sports. I have seen some 18 year old men and women more mature acting than some 30 year olds. **OPPOSE**

SB No. 1071- An act concerning additional funding for the criminal injuries compensation fund.

- I oppose the tax on manufactures or importers of firearms who sell and distribute their product in accordance with the law to be penalized for the acts of a criminal. The proposed unjustified tax will increase the cost of purchase to citizens who have no hand in criminal firearm activity. **OPPOSE**

SB No. 299- An act concerning communication among state and local police departments during active shooter incidents **SUPPORT**

HB 6162- An act concerning ineligibility for permit to carry a pistol or revolver or an eligibility certificate based on a prior hospitalization **Support on principal- OPPOSE on detail.**

Question for the committee: Would the Newtown shooter have been captured as a person with psychiatric disabilities under CGS 17a-495?

I'm concerned about application of this clause without guidelines to veterans who seek counseling (talking to a professional) and unjustly grouped into PTSD category
As far as individual with psychiatric disabilities residing I would suggest research and consultation with mental health care professionals before writing this into statutory language.
Perhaps it could be better addressed on a pistol permit application in suitability arena.

SB No. 506- An act requiring criminal background checks for all private firearm sales **OPPOSE**

As I read this **vendor** is replaced by **transferor** and **purchaser** is replaced by **transferee**. Many references to "other transfer"

As I read this I cannot loan a rifle to my fellow club member to take home for a weekend shoot.

I would like see the bipartisan task force bill language for this issue, I oppose this bill based on language used.

Respectfully,

Scott Martin