

Benjamin W. Sargent
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Connecticut Legislature,

My name is Benjamin Sargent and I'm an avid hunter, fisherman and outdoorsman. I would like to voice my opposition to SB 1076 and new gun legislation. Mandatory gun registration is in violation of our unique American rights and a violation of privacy. Furthermore Police stations would be overwhelmed with current gun owners as they clamor to register and attempt to keep up with registration renewals and fees. Any gun fee is a burden to the poor and they have the right to be able to protect themselves as much as I do.

Gun features on rifles do not make the weapon deadlier. Most of these features make the gun more comfortable to shoot. I support a complete repeal of all current restrictions on semi-automatic rifles with detachable magazines (Section 1. Section 53-202a). These restrictions are like telling people they can not have shiny rims on their cars or that they can not paint their cars black. Neither of these examples inhibits the function of the car.

We know currently that the Pistol Permit Application system is overloading and it's taking 12 to 15 weeks to process applications. There are many more rifle owners in Connecticut than pistol permit applicants and requiring rifle permits would bring the system to it's knees. Additionally requiring an card specific an ammunition caliber is also burdensome paperwork and too much bureaucracy for a simple very common purchase.

SB 505: I suggest we only limit age to same age as eligibility to the military which is 18. Keeping children from possessing guns wise, but 21 is not the right age. A citizen can vote at 18 and is considered a legal adult and should be treated as one.

SB 1071: Requiring taxes on gun manufacturers is very unfriendly to businesses and should not be made law. CT has an advantage as having a rich gun manufacturing heritage and highly skilled labor force. The state should play to it's strengths to attract more firearms manufacturers.

HB No. 6251: Requiring fingerprints is impractical. I recently applied for my Pistol Permit and had my prints done by a Police Officer. I was later called back to the Police Station because the prints did not come out and I had to be fingerprinted again. It took two tries for the Lieutenant to get acceptable prints for my permit application. I think FFL dealers will struggle with the ability to perform and achieve good fingerprints and a majority of the time the prints will be illegible.

HB 6569: This bill needs an exclusion to allow a homeowner to discharge a firearm in self defense in consideration of homes that are built closer than 500 ft to each other.

HB 6598: I oppose restricting guns on school campuses. Creating a gun free zone only creates easy targets for criminals as we have seen time and time again. Allowing persons to be armed on school premises will deter crime and possible stop it in progress.

Sincerely,

Benjamin W. Sargent