

Honorable members of the Public Safety and Security Committee, My name is **Judy Aron** and I am a resident of **West Hartford**. Governor Malloy believes me to be "The fringe of the fringe", but I am here today as a taxpayer, a mother, a wife, a citizen of CT and a law abiding person who has a valid CT pistol permit and firmly believes in our Constitutional right - both Federal and State - to keep and bear arms ... un-infringed.

**We have several bills before us today in this Committee Hearing and I am opposed to ALL of them (except SB299) for the very reasons other people before me and after me will enumerate.** The numbers and names of these bills are on the back of this paper with my very briefly stated objections. I honestly do not understand how you in good conscience can agree to any of these bills, all of which are completely and utterly ineffective in preventing another Sandy Hook. **What these bills do - and especially SB1076 - is to make it more difficult and expensive for any citizen in CT to legally own and operate a firearm, and thus allow a disadvantage for us and a major advantage to criminals.** Criminals, by definition, will be exempt from these laws, and indeed many of these laws will make existing gun owners instant criminals.

Can any of you explain to me how we are here crafting legislation without a full account from the Newtown tragedy? **Where is the Toxicology Report? Where is the Police Investigation Report?** Why do we not yet have this information **after 3 months?** Without knowing why Adam Lanza did what he did or what drugs he was on, how can you just blame this all on guns and go full bore in restricting access, and limiting availability and creating more paperwork and on and on and on? Did the current CT gun regulations, some of the toughest in the country, stop Adam Lanza? Not entirely... From what I heard the system worked and he was denied a permit, but he stole guns anyway. He broke perhaps 2 dozen laws - so do you really believe enacting 100 more laws and regulations is going to fix anything? **Truly it won't. Instead you will just be punishing good hard working honest CT citizens for the crimes that Lanza committed.** How will that solve anything? Will it bring back dead children? Of course it won't... and it won't stop the evil we have in our society and the social decay we are witnessing either. **I will wager the only thing that will prevent this tragedy from happening again is not restricting gun ownership, but fixing this incredibly broken Mental Health Delivery System in this state... and making certain that places where our children play and learn are made safe and secure. Where are the proposed laws to do that? There haven't been many.**

I can cite hundreds of cases where open and free gun ownership has saved lives. I can also give you facts and information about how gun restrictions have put people into the position of being unable to adequately defend themselves against evil in the form of criminals and home invaders. Are you just as satisfied to pass all of these bills to create more victims? **Do you know how many bullets I want in my magazine? It is one more than my attacker has.** Do you know what kind of firearm I want to be able to have? One that is easy to use and has **the features I choose. I don't want the State telling me what kind of gun I can own, what cosmetics it can have, and how many bullets I can have in a magazine.** In any crime against me or my family and my home I will be the first responder. **Remember that.**

I have heard various people say - legislators included - "who needs an assault weapon"? First of all they aren't assault weapons, please use the correct terminology, they are firearms. Well, **who are you all to determine what I NEED?** Need has nothing to do with any of this.. **I should have the complete freedom to own and operate any equipment that my local police department has, since they are up against the same criminal element that I am in my own community.**

Aside from all of this - I want to know from you all - have you determined what **all of this ineffective knee-jerk legislation will cost CT in more paperwork, more lawsuits, lost jobs, lost revenue, and lost lives?** The costs are very real indeed. And I will tell you that this gun issue is not a Democrat or Republican issue - it is an issue that affects all of us. **These laws strip us of our ability to determine for ourselves how we wish to defend ourselves against criminals.** I will wager that if you support any of these measures that will further erode our choices, that **whether you are a Democrat or a Republican** you will do so at the peril of losing your next election, because **hundreds of thousands** of average ordinary taxpaying people like me across this State will work very hard to **make sure that people who disregard our firearm choices and our rights, and their oath of office, be unseated the next time election day comes around.** Remember that.

**Bills being heard on 03/14/13:**

1	<a href="#"><u>S.B. No. 299</u></a> (COMM) AN ACT CONCERNING COMMUNICATION AMONG STATE AND LOCAL POLICE DEPARTMENTS DURING ACTIVE SHOOTER INCIDENTS. (PS,PS)	<b>Support</b> - This bill should cover ALL mass casualty events; not just an active shooter incidents.
2	<a href="#"><u>S.B. No. 505</u></a> (COMM) AN ACT CONCERNING THE MINIMUM AGE TO PURCHASE A RIFLE OR OTHER LONG GUN. (PS,PS)	<b>Oppose</b> - People aged 18 to 21 are considered responsible enough to join the military and/or law enforcement - handle real assault weapons and lay down their lives to serve our country, why should they not be able to own a firearm as a civilian? This law would not have prevented the Newtown shooting.
3	<a href="#"><u>S.B. No. 506</u></a> (COMM) AN ACT REQUIRING CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR ALL PRIVATE FIREARM SALES. (PS,PS)	<b>Oppose</b> - This is just a bunch of ridiculous time consuming and costly paper shuffling - do you honestly think transferring firearms to family members requires a background check? How much will all this paper filing cost the State? This law would not have prevented the Newtown shooting.
4	<a href="#"><u>S.B. No. 710</u></a> (COMM) AN ACT CONCERNING PERMITS FOR GUN SHOWS. (PS,PS)	<b>Oppose</b> - Unnecessary and arbitrary law since local authorities require permits anyway. This law would not have prevented the Newtown shooting.
5	<a href="#"><u>S.B. No. 897</u></a> (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING REGULATION OF FIREARMS. (PS)	<b>Oppose</b> - Sure people who are under the influence shouldn't use firearms - but the rest of this bill is another bunch of costly paperwork shuffling and would not have done anything to prevent Adam Lanza from his killing spree.
6	<a href="#"><u>S.B. No. 1071</u></a> (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION FUND. (PS)	<b>Oppose</b> - This bill unfairly taxes one segment of an industry that is already heavily taxed. Will we also be taxing knife, bat, and automobile manufacturers and dealers, since those items also kill and maim people? This law would not have prevented the Newtown shooting.
7	<a href="#"><u>S.B. No. 1076</u></a> (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE REDUCTION OF GUN VIOLENCE. (PS)	<b>Oppose</b> - This bill is full of arbitrary language and will absolutely do nothing to reduce gun violence - it will only serve to punish gun owners in CT for Adam Lanza's crimes. Banning a gun because of what it looks like will not make anyone safer. Limiting magazine capacity puts me at a disadvantage to a criminal. This law would not have prevented the Newtown shooting.
8	<a href="#"><u>H.B. No. 6162</u></a> (COMM) AN ACT CONCERNING INELIGIBILITY FOR A PERMIT TO CARRY A PISTOL OR REVOLVER OR AN ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATE BASED ON A PRIOR HOSPITALIZATION. (PS,PS)	<b>Oppose</b> - Although I agree with the concept of keeping weapons away from mentally ill people who are considered a danger to themselves and to others, we must be very careful of who we deem to be unfit and the reasons and circumstances behind their receiving mental health care.
9	<a href="#"><u>H.B. No. 6251</u></a> (COMM) AN ACT REQUIRING FINGERPRINTING AND CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS PRIOR TO THE SALE, DELIVERY OR TRANSFER OF ALL LONG GUNS. (PS,PS)	<b>Oppose</b> - More paperwork designed to clog up the application process at a huge cost to CT taxpayers. There is already a 2 week waiting period to purchase a long gun in CT. This law would not have prevented the Newtown shooting.
10	<a href="#"><u>H.B. No. 6595</u></a> (RAISED) AN ACT PROHIBITING THE DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS NEAR PRIVATE RESIDENCES. (PS)	<b>Oppose</b> - This is unnecessary additional law since we already have breach of peace and trespass laws on the books. This law would not have prevented the Newtown shooting.
11	<a href="#"><u>H.B. No. 6598</u></a> (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING PUBLIC PROTECTION. (PS)	<b>Oppose</b> - This bill proposes gun confiscation. Gun owners will not be compensated for their loss and this law would not have prevented the Newtown shooting.