

March 14, 2013

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thank you for allowing me 180 seconds today to address over 90 pages of proposed gun bills. The current laws are only 40 pages.

I oppose 505. If 18 is old enough to serve our country in combat, then 18 is old enough to own long guns.

I oppose 506. It's already illegal to transfer a firearm to a person disqualified from ownership. I especially object to requiring private citizens to keep personal transfer papers in their homes "*available for inspection during normal business hours by law enforcement officials.*"

I oppose 1071. It has nothing to do with reduction of crime. It appears to simply create new taxes and makes it difficult for legal firearm businesses.

I can't strongly enough oppose 1076. First, the title is a misnomer. It will do nothing what so ever to reduce gun violence. It is overreaching, oppressive and punitive to law-abiding citizens. This bill is nothing less than an effort to legislate away our 2nd Amendment right. I can go on for hours about how these 59 pages are unconstitutional, but I trust you will hear hours of testimony opposing this bill from 1000 more today.

I oppose 6251. *It is unreasonable and oppressive to expect that every single transfer of a long gun require fingerprinting.* And I again object to requiring private citizens to keep personal transfer papers in their homes "*available for inspection during normal business hours by law enforcement officials.*"

I oppose 6595. Prohibiting discharge of firearms within 500 feet of residential buildings. Somebody must have forgot to exempt gun clubs and ranges that are and were already existing and established long before the residential properties near them were built.

I oppose 6598. This is puzzling. This says that if a person is found to pose a risk of imminent injury, their firearms may be seized. But I don't see mention of detaining the dangerous individual. ??? Is this again blaming the inanimate object?

How will these bills reduce crime? Criminals don't obey laws. These bills make purchase and ownership unreasonably hard on law abiding citizens and do nothing to help reduce gun violence. These are punitive to the innocent.

The state has a low rate of prosecuting gun related crimes. If we haven't been using our laws...how can we say we need more? What truly needs to be done is to enforce the laws already on the books and to prosecute the criminals. Also, money that was allocated to the gun-trafficking task force needs to be taken back from the general fund and returned to law enforcement and crime prevention. These ready avenues have been ignored for too long. Enforce what we have.

How can we even discuss what bills need to be considered when the report of what happened at Sandy Hook hasn't been finished?? Passing bills before the report is putting the cart before the horse.

If these bills pass, it will likely result in most if not all firearms and related manufactures leaving the state. That will result in a loss of almost \$2 billion and the creation of 1000's of unemployed.

Finally, I trust you won't be misled by the media's slanted reporting. The media reported there were "hundreds" here Monday. Well, I was one of over 3000 peaceful gun owners. The media also reported Wednesday there were "*not as many as Monday*". I was here and there were less than 150.

Your constituents are here and we only want that you keep your oath to uphold the Constitutions of both our State and our Country.

Thank you.

Respectfully,
Karen Zalewski
Meriden, CT 06450