

Thank you once again for hearing our testimonies and of course taking your time to weigh all possibilities concerning new laws and not rushing to create them. If New York is an example of rushing a law, we know that doing so only creates bad laws.

I am here to voice my objection to a majority of the new laws being proposed, not all, but most of them.

Raised bill 1071 AN ACT CONCERNING ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION FUND. And Bill 1076 Nothing says keep your business in this state by enacting more taxes on them and saying your product is not welcome here. Gov. Malloy recently said that he is not asking gun manufacturers to leave, no, with these bills you are basically pushing them out. According to Forbes business daily the state of CT has a budget deficit of \$163 million dollars. And according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics CT's unemployment rate is somewhere around 8.6%, that doesn't include people who have given up, so the rate is actually much higher. Gun manufacturers in this state add billions of dollars of tax revenue to this state not to mention thousands of good paying jobs including ancillary business due to parts suppliers in this state. If these bills pass the manufacturers have already stated, they will leave. Costing CT jobs and much needed tax revenue. Not to mention materials suppliers now have lost a revenue stream again, costing even more jobs. Colt firearms has been in this state for over 100 years, at one point CT fought hard to keep Colt manufacturing from going under, and was succesful in doing so. Well, now with these bills, CT is saying...get out. BTW, any new taxes you impose on them, we the consumer pay not the business. Their taxes go up, the price of their product goes up. And of course nothing says stick around by telling a company that their product is not welcome to be sold here, but go ahead and pay taxes on them anyway.

Which brings me to the meat of 1076, the AWB (Assault Weapons Ban). The original AWB was allowed to expire due to the fact that government and independant studies found that it did nothing to reduce gun violence at all. As a matter of fact, Rifles are only used in 6% of crime in the US. According to the CT Unifom Crime reports, in the past 18 years, 63 people have been killed by a rifle of ANY type. In a state of 3.4 million people your chances of getting shot by one is 1 in 971,500. The odds of getting struck by lightning is 1 in 770,000. So how

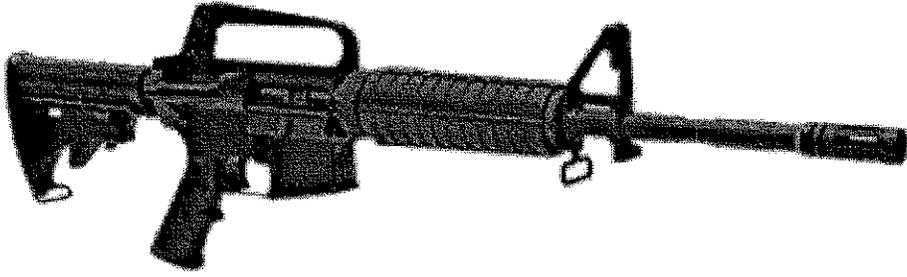
is banning these rifles going to reduce gun violence?

Another point to make is, looking at the bill, the ban of these weapons is based solely on appearance and not function. I have here pictures of 2 rifles, both take detachable magazines, both are semi-automatic both fire the same .223/5.56 round, yet one will be banned one will not based on how it looks.

The provision in this bill about now requiring us to get a separate permit just for rifles that will cost us an additional \$140! I already have a gun permit, I have already passed a background check, I have already been fingerprinted. This punishes only me, the law abiding citizen who already jumped through hoops to obtain a permit. Criminals do not follow these laws and these restrictions will not stop them. And the other provision in this bill that registers my firearm and also will not allow me to purchase ammo unless I have a card that says I own the weapon that it is for. This cannot pass. I recently went to Hoffman's to purchase a rifle. I could not purchase the rifle without my gun permit and a NICS instant background check. If my permit is sufficient to purchase a gun, it should be sufficient to purchase ammo as well. I have no issue with showing my permit to buy these things, I do have an issue with yearly registering my firearms and having to PROVE that I own the weapons that I am buying the ammo for. I am not a criminal, don't make me out to be one. So, gun registry, separate permit for rifles, separate permit for handguns, all these things will make gun ownership very cost prohibitive which I am pretty sure, infringes on my right to keep and bear arms.



NOT
Banned



Banned