



3/14/2013

President  
Connecticut Carry, Inc  
229 Branford Rd Unit 423  
North Branford, CT 06471

#### Public Safety and Security Committee

Members of the Committee,

I write you today to express my opposition to SB 1071. SB 1071 is simply a revenue grab on the firearms industry, which is one of the few thriving industries left in Connecticut, using the Newtown Massacre as an excuse. This is atrocious and immoral. This money will end up in the General Fund like every other such tax has previously, and the state will profit off of the bloodshed we are all so hurt by on that terrible day.

In addition, the practical ramifications of such a bill are disastrous twofold:

- The tax will drive industry out of Connecticut.
- The additional costs for businesses which choose to stay will be handed down to consumers.

Firearms manufacturers are already being courted and tempted to move out of state by strong incentives from those states which also happen to be friendly to the industry. This is going to result in huge revenue losses to the state, as well as the destruction of many, many jobs.

Taxes on rights have long been held to be unconstitutional, and regardless, they should be obviously immoral. The State of Connecticut already applies a huge tax burden on its residents, and firearms owners are taxed far more through hunting permit fees, pistol permit fees (some of which are illegally collected by the DESPP) and costly regulations on the industry.

This bill will do nothing to increase public safety or security and therefore, the committee should reject it outright.

Connecticut Carry is dedicated to advancing and protecting the fundamental civil rights of the men and women of Connecticut to keep and bear arms for defense of themselves and the state as guaranteed by the United States Constitution and the Constitution of Connecticut.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Burgess".

Richard Burgess  
President

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