

March 10, 2013

Honorable Public Safety Committee Members,

I am writing this letter to recommend your committee take action to make Connecticut safer by rejecting imposing additional restrictions on law abiding citizen's ability to protect themselves and their families.

I think we can agree that the overwhelming majority of CT residents and gun owners are law abiding citizens and have no desire to bring harm to anyone. I am not nervous about the types of firearms or magazine size these people possess.

What scares me is that the additional restrictions on guns and ammunition will not impact the extremely small percentage of people who are willing to hurt others in the commission of their crimes. These people have proven that they have the energy, desire, ability, and will to circumvent the law to commit their crimes.

These same criminals pick on the most vulnerable of our society because they are the easiest targets. The Sandy Hook, Fort Hood, and Colorado Movie Theatre shootings occurred in gun free zones; conversely the Clackamas Mall shooter was confronted by an armed law abiding citizen resulting in much fewer deaths. Many of the proposals being discussed by your committee will make the good people of this state more vulnerable while giving advantage to the perpetrators.

Do not put our citizens at a greater risk by enacting legislation that makes us feel good but limits the ability of the law abiding to protect themselves. It has been publicly admitted to, by leaders pushing additional restrictions, that these laws would not have prevented the tragedies that are prompting this action.

I implore your committee to focus on the proposals that remove criminals from society and treat the mentally ill rather than the easy approach of going after the law abiding.

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