

Testimony: On SB 1076

**I strongly oppose SB 1076.**

I find Section 32, Disturbing and potentially illegal:

**Summary of Section 32** - This section is essentially a mandatory registration of ALL firearms! Not just semi auto sporting rifles!

Failure to register will be a class D felony! Any laws making something you are legally able to own, a class D felony for no reason other than wanting to know who has them and how many goes against everything this very country was founded upon, it is an invasion of our right to privacy, and a blatant attempt by the government and states to keep us under the thumb of their oppression under the guise of public safety.

**You will need to register each firearm with a background check and thumb print every year for a yet un-disclosed fee.** This does not sound like anything even remotely close to a method of preventing gun violence, it sounds more like a money making scheme or just an unfair Burden on legal gun owners as a sort of "Revenge" for sticking up for their rights as Americans! Forcing citizens to pay a tax and register then re-register their possessions on a yearly basis is unjustifiable on any level for any reason. The King of England tried to do this very same thing to us back in the 1700's and look how that worked out. Repeating the failed attempts at charging the public unfairly will be just that, repeating failed attempts.

**If you are late on re-registering** - you have to turn in that firearm or the police will come and confiscate it. Felony or not, a lot of people will neglect to register any as of yet, unregistered guns.

This will cause CT citizens to be instant felons for possessing currently legal personal property. My dad's revolutionary war rifle hanging over the fireplace will become illegal again, just as it was back in 1776 when they were used by American Revolutionists to fight off a tyrannical government who was in fact, trying to take such weapons from the citizens of this very country. History repeats its self yet again.

The bill describes confiscation as punishment of not compliance. This isn't just about firearms - it's about property rights and civil rights as well!

The registration process will be an economic nightmare for CT. Where will CT get the funds to enforce it? The DPS is already overwhelmed with over 29,000 background checks in December and 31,800 in January. How will they keep up with registering / background checks for the initial 2,000,000 plus firearms people legally currently owned in CT? All firearms purchases through a dealer in CT is already on file via the DPS-3 form

No additional registration is needed. This is all geared more towards punishing legal gun owners and making extra money for the states pocket book than stopping gun violence.

Has anyone considered the costs of all the potential lawsuits against the state should this bill move forward - just see what is happening in NY, gun rights groups have vowed to move ahead in the courts should anything like this be passed.

As far as adding to the assault weapons ban - Connecticut already has one of the most restrictive "so called" assault weapons bans in the US ("so called" because the definition of an assault rifle is the capability of firing fully automatically, "machine gun" and the ones targeted by this bill do not meet this criteria). Tagging a firearm as an "Assault Weapon" just because it has things like a foldable or adjustable stock, Bayonet lug, or Muzzle compensator / Muzzle Break or pistol grip, Even a rifle with a thumb hole stock is quite simply ludicrous just for the fact that not one of these items will make a gun easier to kill with or more powerful or more dangerous to society than if they didn't have them! Also, it sets a very real and very scary precedent that will make it easier for any law makers who have any sort of irrational fear of anything or anyone to just make laws against it based on certain aspects or

parts that really do not make any difference at all as to the reasons for its being banned. Let's call this what it really is, A very convenient way to lump a whole bunch of weapons in the same basket to remove them from the public's hands. Using these examples to ban certain weapons makes it a whole lot easier because they can call ANYTHING an assault weapon they want to and if they need to, they can just add other "Ban-able" items to the list... Like if it fires a round above a certain caliber or over a certain velocity or even a certain color! It's the same as saying "the only cars we are banning are the ones with tires, or a steering wheel or headlights."

Magazine Capacity - Modern semiautomatic firearms accept standard capacity magazines. That means the firearm was designed around a certain magazine capacity. Standard capacity magazines for most modern rifles are 20 & 30 rounds. Standard capacity magazines for most modern pistols are 12-19 rounds. Limited capacity magazines (10 rounds or less) have no place in and mid to full sized handgun or rifle. There are many modern firearms that do not have limited magazines available. Also, it has not been proven in anyway except in the court of popular opinion (of only a small amount of people who have more than likely never fired or owned a gun before) that higher capacity "Standard" magazines cause more deaths. Even your Newtown school shooter didn't use all 30 rounds of his magazines and changed out his magazines before being emptied, some before being halfway emptied. No one stopped him between magazine changes.

Also, prior bans (1994) on magazines proved to have no effect on crime.

The SB1076 requirement of limiting magazines and making possession of standard magazine illegal is another civil & property rights offense.

Taking a currently legal object that is already in possession of the owners who's guns use them, And making possession of them illegal just sounds like more sour grapes. There has to be a provision to grandfather currently owned property without cost to the owner or fines or registration of such which will cause owners to incur a charge. And to think, Gov. Malloy's proposal says owners of Hi capacity magazines would have to turn them into the police or sell them out of state suggests that he (Malloy) really dose not care about safety but more about just getting them out of the state, whether or not someone uses them in a crime elsewhere seems to be of no concern of his, as if to say, as long as no one is dying in CT, he (Malloy) can care less about who or how many die elsewhere in the country!

Connecticut already has one of the most restrictive hand gun laws as well. You can't purchase a handgun in CT without a state issued permit. You need to go through an extensive and expensive process which takes months and include finger printing and a comprehensive federal background check to complete, So we are already denied our basic civil right to arm ourselves in CT without obtaining a sort of "permission slip" from the state. Adding more regulations and fines and punishments has very little to do with making the state safer and more to do with taking more legal guns out of the hands of the good, but doing nothing to take them from the bad.

I am VERY disappointed the CT legislature and Gov. Malloy for exploiting the death of children to further their agenda.

There are millions of *single issue* voters that will be watching closely and voting accordingly... I for one, will be voting against anyone and everyone who is for more gun control, especially to the extent of using the memory of 20 dead children to further their cause because they feel these children to be the perfect vehicle to speed their agenda to its final goal, complete gun control and oblivion of the second Amendment and the Constitution of the United States of America!

**In closing** - All this talk and focus and money spent on the proposed new gun laws, especially when the old laws are hardly ever enforced, and with very little to no talk of how to go after the criminals guns, guns used in gang wars, gang hits, violent crimes by career criminals using unregistered "hot" guns, and almost non existence of talk, proposals and Legislations to make our schools safer and more secure, only sheds further light on the fact that these new proposals are nothing more than a play by the government and the state at removing arms from the law abiding people while providing a very false and scary sense of security to the easily fooled masses who accept anything told to them by anyone "official" as the gospel truth. Again, it seems the Governments and the States stance is: Go after and

punish those who play by the rules for its far easier than going after the real threat, the real problem, the criminals, those who don't play by the rules, those with no regard for the laws... the ones responsible for all the reasons there is all this talk of gun bans and laws in the first place. Make the voters think we are protecting them and they will return the favor while we STILL raise their taxes and take their property anytime we choose.

All this and the fact that every time someone suggest real world ways to make our schools safer and more secure, they are met with resistance by the very parents of the children in the schools, and the very folks who seem to think better gun laws and fines will do more than better security and bullet proof glass. We have heard it all now, "But we don't want our kids to have to go to school in a prison like setting" or "So locking up our kids and treating them like prisoners is going to be better?" in short...yes!

You wont need to worry, if you know someone meaning to harm your kids will not be able to get in a school Vs. You wont have to worry about someone meaning to harm your kids if you know they **don't** have a gun but, then you WILL have to worry that even without a gun, if they can get into the school, they can do a lot of harm in other ways!

Craig Zac.