

Dear Sir / Dear Madam.

The Sandy Hook shooting, The Aurora Theater shooting, the shooting of Gabby Giffords and others and the V-Tech shootings were all horrible. All these shootings and other non-gun violence against innocents are horrible losses suffered by the victims, surviving families and friends. The public also suffers in general at the hearing of such incidents.

All mass shootings as well as individual shootings or other means of violence against innocents are disgusting acts of misguided human nature.

I support legislation that would require beefed up security at our schools. I also support legislation that would impose smarter control on access to weapons in general. There are things that can be done that may prevent or at least reduce the losses from these incidents.

As I first mentioned, I completely agree that some legislation needs to be enacted. Here are some of my suggestions not in any order of importance;

- Weapons permit applications must be enhanced. A mental health check should be included along with gun safety classes and the other requirements as criminal checks. A permit holder must also attend a use of force school or classes similar to that of a police officer when they renew their permit. If they do not wish to comply - no weapon permit.
- A weapons permit should be required for the purchase of any weapons or ammunition. If you have no permit then you have no access. I would extend this to all weapons to include serious archery equipment, edged weapons and high powered air guns.
- Make weapons permits retroactive. If a gun owner does not want to go through the process of a permit then they can sell off their firearms. I know this is a bit harsh but you need a license to drive a car...right?
- Gun storage rules should be enacted. Requirements to store guns in hardened, lockable containers need to be spelled out. We should require that the weapons, when not in use, be locked up. But let's do this in a common sense manner.
- **Of very high importance**, we need to harden our schools against easy criminal penetration. Reinforce the first floor level glass and entrances with polycarbonate glazing and quality lock equipment. Use other security equipment to beef up the perimeter.
- *Tactically speaking*, one very good way of responding to attempts of a mass shooting is to slow the access of the attacker. The longer the attacker struggles to gain access; the longer the intended victims have to call police and activate their facility emergency plans. This hardening of the windows and doors also gives the Officers added time to get to the scene and remove the threat. *(Please look up the terms "window security film" on YOUTUBE. Please review those videos. You will see some amazing protection from aftermarket products that can beef up current school structures at low costs.)*
- Also I support armed protection specialist or police officers in the schools. We do this for the upper school grades already. The use of retired officers acting as constables is a valid proposal both **cost-wise and security-wise**. There is a giant pool of dedicated talent out there.

As I said earlier, my background is in Law Enforcement and U.S. Military. I believe in the citizen's right of self-defense and I firmly believe the proposed punitive legislation inhibits such freedoms.

Bad law is counter-productive to the good of the people, our state and our country. Good laws protect our rights and safety. Enacting biased and punitive legislation against law abiding gun owners is not the way to keep things safe.

- Please vote against punitive anti-gun legislation.
- Please protect the rights of honest constituents.
- Please legislate against the bad people instead of creating "bad people" out of legitimate gun owners.
- Legit gun owners are assets to the community.

Please consider voting in funding for smart school security measures and fair gun control legislation that will actually protect us and our kids without taking from legit armed citizens.

Please get rid of the "gun free zone" laws. They only inhibit honest people who might intercede in a shooting or other deadly violence

I am sure there are issues I may have missed in my letter. However any issues should be addressed without creating criminals of law abiding firearm owners or making monsters out of firearms that do no harm by themselves.

Let not apply labels to objects or people in an attempt to demonize. It's a poor tactic for common sense solutions.

Thank you for your government service and your personal time.

John Lujick of Hamden Ct.