

Members of the Public Safety and Security Committee,

My name is Newell W. Powell.

I am a resident of Griswold.

I am employed as a Connecticut Licensed Bail Enforcement Agent, additionally doing part-time work as a Security Guard. I have hunted ever since I was a teenager and had my pistol permit for 25 years.

If these Bills are passed you will be putting my life as well as the lives of every Bail Enforcement Agent and Armed Security guard in danger because of the magazine restrictions. With these bills, as written, I feel that the security of several Defense Contractors here in Connecticut, as well as and our own Millstone Nuclear Power Plant will be put at a significant security risk.

The proposed "high capacity" magazine ban and the "assault rifle" ban will put me (at home and on the job), in jeopardy. I feel that all the proposed bills that have been presented are done out of fear and ignorance of firearms in general. The media's demonization of this issue, and of firearms owners in particular, cause this issue and the good people in this community to receive unwarranted attacks. I do not think that placing heavy restrictions and taxes on firearms and ammunition will get the criminals to obey the law.

In the past weeks there have been several "police related shootings" where high numbers of rounds have been fired by the police with inaccurate results. These were trained officers and, under fire, they had expended numerous rounds of ammunition. My point is that your proposed restriction of magazine capacities will unnecessarily cause the average gun owner to be at a great disadvantage when confronted with a perpetrator who has the current standard magazine capacity. Citizens' lives will be in jeopardy unnecessarily. We need our weapons to defend ourselves and our families. I ask that you punish the criminals, not the law abiding citizens. Remember the 2nd Amendment language "SHALL NOT BE INFRINGED". Please use real common sense when considering any changes to current law.

Thank you for your time.