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March 14th, 2013

The Public Safety and Security Committee
Public Hearing at Legislative Office Building, Room 2C

Thank you all for allowing me the opportunity to speak and express my thoughts and concerns. I am a lifelong resident of Connecticut. I was born and raised in Danbury, CT and currently reside in Willington, CT. I grew up with several people that were directly affected by the Newtown tragedy. As a responsible gun owner, I have come here to **oppose** the raised *SENATE BILL 1076, AN ACT CONCERNING THE REDUCTION OF GUN VIOLENCE*. I **do not** support a renewed "assault weapons" ban or a limit to magazine capacity. My recommendation is to look at the root cause and the motive behind acts of violence, not solely by the means for which they are committed.

One of my close family members works in the criminal justice field providing rehabilitation to a variety of offenders. These offenders have various backgrounds and have committed a wide range of crimes. Part of the rehabilitative process includes individual accountability for what one has done as they must take responsibility and ownership for their actions. It's not drugs that made them commit their crimes. It's not their peers or the weapons that they used. These people committed these crimes because they made a conscious choice to do so. Our judicial system does not blame alcohol for when a drunk driver kills someone. The driver is to blame because they made the conscious choice to drink and drive.

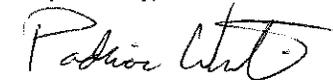
If a person with intent to do harm presents themselves to me or my family, I should have the continued right to defend myself and protect my family. If an individual poses a threat to me or my family with a semi-automatic rifle holding more than 10 rounds, I should have the continued right to meet them with equal force. Requiring more limitations on gun type and magazine limits will only create more victims; the law abiding citizens. Those seeking to do harm will continue to acquire any weapon of their choice and they will have the advantage if we are restricted. Regardless of the law, malice will always find a way.

Proposed *SENATE BILL 1076* is suggesting an inanimate object is to blame for violence and that is simply not true. Violence occurs because a person has chosen that option. As previously mentioned, it is my recommendation that we look at the root cause and the motive behind acts of violence, not solely by the means for which they are committed.

Please vote logically **against** raised *SENATE BILL 1076, AN ACT CONCERNING THE REDUCTION OF GUN VIOLENCE*.

Thank you for your time. My contact information is listed on my written testimonial. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Respectfully,



Padriac M. White