

Testimony for the Public Safety and Security Committee of the Connecticut State  
Legislature

March 14, 2013

Members of the Committee,

My name is Robert Starr. I am a lifelong resident of Torrington.

I am here today to speak in **opposition** to **S.B. 1076**. This bill will do nothing to increase public safety, so I can only assume that it is proposed as part of an overall gun control agenda. To ban certain firearms based upon arbitrary cosmetic features is ridiculous and not worthy of consideration, never mind passage by the legislature.

As you can see I am a person living with some physical limitations. The adaptability of AR-15 style rifles with adjustable stocks makes them ideally suited to people like me.

Especially egregious is the section dealing with the possession of body armor. How can anyone with a conscience tell me that on one hand they want to limit my access to tools of active self-defense, and on the other hand they want to prohibit my access to tools of passive self-defense as well?

As citizens of Connecticut we share a common bond in that we want to do what we can to prevent future tragedies like the one at Sandy Hook. I respectfully submit that this bill is not the solution but just a new set of problems from which we will derive no benefit. We need to do the things that can actually make a difference, such as improving mental health services and school security.

Finally, please do not rush to pass new legislation while we still have not gotten a report from the State Police on their investigation into the horrible crime in Newtown.

Thank you,

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