

Judiciary Committee Testimony Governor's Bill No. 6848
Public Hearing Mar 11, 2015

Co-Chair: Senator Coleman
Co-Chair: Representative Tong
Members of the Committee

My name is Bruce Tolhurst
I live in Marlborough, CT

I am writing to you to **OPPOSE Governor's Bill No. 6848: AN ACT PROTECTING VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.**

Like SB 650, this bill attempts to make firearms confiscations only take a simple accusation by another person. It is disguised as something to help victims of 'domestic violence', even though it is more likely to get victims of domestic violence killed when the government disarms the victim based on a TRO filed by a malicious domestic abused bent on doing harm.

The bill seeks to remove the current legal need for a 14 day hearing from the TRO process to confiscate firearms. It also demands that people surrender their firearms or have their firearms confiscated within 24 hours of notice of a TRO. Interestingly, this is what the State Police had been deceiving Connecticut residents into thinking was the law and threatening those people with arrest for many years now when it is not the law.

This bill also seeks to remove the ability for a person impacted by a TRO to transfer to an FFL, and requires them to instead surrender their property to the state. Currently, people have the option to surrender their firearms to whomever they want, provided that they have an actual restraining order, not just a single party (temporary) restraining order. This leaves a person's property to be left as leverage against the subject of the TRO. This is something that prosecutors and judges all over the state currently do to force people into pleas that they would not otherwise take. It will undoubtedly be used by attorneys in divorce cases as well. Are we sure that once the firearms are taken by the state, people under a TRO would still be able to transfer those firearms to qualified people from the evidence room/vault? Most assuredly, 'Assault Weapons' and 'Large Capacity Magazines', will be very difficult to transferred, if at all, since the 2013 Gun Ban.

I strongly urge you to **OPPOSE** this proposed bill and let it 'die in committee'.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful considerations on this proposed bill.

Bruce A. Tolhurst
16 Virginia Rail Dr.
Marlborough, CT 06447
860-295-0327