

March 8, 2015

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To the Judiciary Committee
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT

RE: Proposed Bill SB00650 An Act Concerning Temporary Restraining Order

Position: OPPOSED

Dear Committee Members,

Please allow this document to serve as testimony in opposition to the referenced bill.

While the intention of this bill is well placed it is biased against the accused. Our justice system is founded on the presumption of innocence until guilt has been established. The burden of proof rests on the accuser. This bill is a clear violation of due process afforded to the accused with the intent of seizing lawfully owned property.

In addition, this bill is redundant. Please see CT Statute 29-38c. This statute takes steps to protect a potential victim while also preserving the right of the accused as to the safe keeping of his/her property. With Bill 650, the state takes possession of property absent proof of guilt. Through 29-38c it would appear that the accused would have the authority to designate another legal gun owner to temporarily take position of his/her firearms and ammunition. It is incumbent upon our judicial system to respect personal property rights.

I encourage you to be mindful of your oath of office and your responsibility to equally and impartially serve those who have elected you.

Respectfully,
Linda F. Czaplinski