

# Yankee Peddler & Pawn

141 State St, New London, CT 06320

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Re: SUPPORT Raised Bill 1072

3-12-15

Dear Members of the Public Safety Committee,

My name is Chad LaPlante and I am co owner of Yankee peddler and pawn in New London, Groton and East Hartford and have been in business for over 20 years.

I am in support of Raised Bill 1072, requiring that the court shall order restitution to a pawnbroker who has suffered an economic loss when property is seized. With the new laws in place since 2011, the record keeping and pictures are helping law enforcement more than ever. As it reads now, if an item is seized from a pawnbroker the courts "may" order restitution, but most of the time we never see it. Over time that adds up to thousands of dollars. With that lost money we could reinvest in our company or even hire new employees.

We are also in support of the sunset date being removed, that states after the year 2021 all pawnbrokers must pay by check only and cant not cash them like we do now up to one thousand dollars. In speaking with our customers and other people in our community this would gravely impact our business. The business we do now works well with the new requirements we have had since 2011, the change in the way we currently do business would hinder the lives of the customer base we have spent so much time to grow.

Thank you,

Chad LaPlante