

March 11, 2015

Joint Committee on Judiciary
Legislative Office Building, Room 2500
Hartford, CT 06106

Testimony in OPPOSITION to H.B. No. 6962 (AN ACT CONCERNING FIREARM SAFETY)

Dear Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I wish to express my OPPOSITION to Proposed Bill H.B. No. 6962 (AN ACT CONCERNING FIREARM SAFETY)

This proposed legislation seeks to expand the current firearm storage law. First, let me state that I am all for the safety storage of firearms, but I feel this proposed legislation is overly broad and would hold the owner responsible for circumstances that may be beyond their control.

This would also make it illegal to allow ones spouse, in their domicile, to have access to a firearm for protection when the owner is not home.

Instead, a proactive approach with incentives like income tax credits and sales tax credits on the purchase of gun safes and safe storage equipment would be more appropriate.

This proposed legislation goes on further and would change Sec. 29-38c transferring the burden of proof from the State to the accused on whether they pose a risk or not. This changes the long understanding of "Innocent until proven guilty" to "Guilty until proven innocent".

I urge you to vote NO on this proposed legislation.

Sincerely,

Roy Downey
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