

## Moniz-Carroll, Rhonda

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**From:** Clyde Finger <clydefinger@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 09, 2015 11:35 PM  
**To:** JudTestimony  
**Subject:** Oppose HB 6848, HB 6962 and SB 650

From my research on the subject I submit the following ...

"Governor Dan Malloy's bill, HB 6848, ... seeks to confiscate legally-acquired firearms and ammunition without due process of the law. This bill would give those served with a restraining or protective order 24 hours to transfer all firearms and ammunition to a federally licensed firearms dealer (FFL) or surrender them to the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Protection. HB 6848 does not provide a way for these rights or possessions to be restored."

"House Bill 6962, or the "Burglar Protection Act," would impose liability and penalties on firearm owners that do not lock up their *unloaded* firearms to prevent any person (not only minors) from potentially accessing the firearm. Data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) indicate that nationally since 1975, the annual number of firearm accident deaths among children ages 0-14 has declined by 87 percent, even as population, the number of gun owners and the number of guns owned have risen substantially. Their reports also indicate that children are more likely to suffocate (27%), drown (17%), be accidentally poisoned (2.2%), or perish from an accidental fall (1.6%) and are as likely to die in a non-traffic bicycle and tricycle accident (1.5%) as they are in a firearm accident (1.5%).

It is already law in Connecticut that loaded firearms within close proximity to minors must be safely secured. This proposal has little to do with making it safer for children and only impedes your right to self-defense. HB 6962 is a gross overreach of governmental power into your private lives and homes. At the end of the day, it comes down to the fact that all households are different and have different needs. This bill would expand the current law to encompass every home, not only those with young children residing in them, and apply to unloaded firearms that pose no threat to anyone. This one-size fits all approach is a solution to a non-existent problem and is both over-reaching and not based on fact."

Senate Bill 650 would allow doctors and family members, including even distant relatives, ex-husbands or ex-wives, to strip you of your gun rights without due process of law. This legislation would require a sworn police officer to serve all temporary restraining orders when the applicant indicates on the application that the respondent has access to a firearm or ammunition, or holds a valid state-issued firearm or ammunition permit or eligibility certificate, in order to immediately take "temporary" possession of all legally-owned firearms, ammunition and permits. Current law already provides a mechanism for committing dangerous persons involuntarily in an emergency situation, which already results in the committed person being prohibited from possessing firearms. Furthermore, Connecticut law already provides for "imminent risk warrants" to be issued, allowing law enforcement to seize firearms and ammunition when probable cause exists to warrant such necessary action. This bill takes unnecessary steps to blatantly circumvent your rights."

For the above reasons, I urge you to oppose these 3 bills, and not move them forward. It is time for the Connecticut legislature to use TRUE common sense for change, and cease the political pandering. Stop

this assault on legal, law abiding CT citizens who own guns. I would hope you might spend your energy in other areas more in need of your focus. If your theme must be guns, who don't you try tackling something more challenging, like the flow of illegal guns into Connecticut, and those who possess them. Are you up for that task?

Clyde Finger  
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