

Carroll, Rhonda

From: TW Knapp <TWilliam.Knapp@cox.net>
Sent: Sunday, March 13, 2016 10:29 PM
To: JudTestimony
Subject: Opposition to Certain RAISED BILLS the subject of your committee

14 March 2016

Dear Judiciary Committee members;

I'm a resident of Wethersfield, Connecticut and a retired Law Enforcement Executive, (both Local and State) and wish to voice my opposition to the following raised bills; I am **"physically incapable of appearing to testify"** (due to a **crippling physical condition**). When capable of physically appearing I testified many, many times on public safety bills.

H.B. 5054 'AN ACT PROTECTING VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE'-

This bill is patently unfair as it grants those who want to complain, freedom to do so without any penalty for "falsely doing so", and it also is very, very Unamerican because it deprives those who are victimized by its provisions, of the basis of American Justice, i.e. **A HEARING BEFORE AN IMPARTIAL JUDGE BEFORE I EXPERIENCE ANY 'NEGATIVE IMPACTS' ON MY LIFE.**

H.B. 5623 'AN ACT CONCERNING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING'

Ex-parte issuance of any such restraining order, grants people 'power over others' without the chance for the

affected person to have his/her side of any situation heard before they are negatively affected. Police officer, or not, everyone has a right to be heard AND Marshall's have been shown to be ineffective in service of such 'orders' anyway. This bill if passed, is just plain "unfair" and "unamerican".. Depriving a person of the right to be heard is just plain wrong. And also, seizing some weapons, in the system now in place in Ct, does not allow them to be returned to 'an accused person' found "completely innocent after a hearing, no matter how rapidly a hearing is provided. The hearing should be BEFORE the order is issued. That is our American system of justice under our Constitution.

H.B. 5622 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE AVAILABILITY OF ERASED RECORDS IN DETERMINING WHETHER A PERSON IS A SUITABLE PERSON TO CARRY A PISTOL OR REVOLVER'

For all my years in a career of Law Enforcement, (over 47 years, 32 as a law enforcement executive in this state), I have seen many, many cases of "unjust arrests" and "overcharging of people that officers arrest" (for a variety of police purposes) and have not worried about them because they were, ultimately, ERASED!! The fact that there had been an "arrest" - without any adjudication, would be ultimately made harmless to innocent people. The "arrest" could not be used by anyone, for anything, period. If this bill passes? It will be an injustice to people arrested that

are, in fact, innocent of the crime they were charged with and allowing a Chief of Police to use such a "one sided" version of events, is just plain "not fair" in that a) prosecutors can "nolle" cases (without the consent of the person charged) and therefore b) put such a case in the person's history with no opportunity for that person to "be cleared by a jury of his/her peers".

S.B. 429 'AN ACT CONCERNING SERVICE OF RESTRAINING ORDERS'

I ask that all members of the committee not support these bills. Thank you for your time;

I am, T. William Knapp, Chief of Police (Ret) and formerly, Executive Director, POSTCouncil, State of Connecticut. I reside at 171 Collier Road, Wethersfield, CT 06109..