

Hobart, Jamie

From: Lorenzo Quijano <lquijano@me.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 01, 2016 10:47 AM
To: pstestimony
Subject: HB 5408

Public Safety and Security Committee.

"We're just trying to get clarification on that language," Dargan said. "Nobody is against open carry, but when a police officer asks you for a driver's license, you are required to show a license...so what's the big deal here?"

I write regarding proposed bill HB 5408. The good representative quoted above seems to have his "rights" mixed up. The "big deal" is, 99 times out of 100, if I'm asked to show an officer my drivers license, it's because I did something to run afoul of traffic laws, and was pulled over by an officer. The Connecticut State Constitution clearly states I have the right to keep and bear in defense of myself and the state. The permitting process, while I disagree with it, does not require me to conceal my properly holstered firearm. The law today says the officer must have reasonable suspicion that I am in violation of law before interacting with me. Like the driver analogy above, he has to see me doing something that he can articulate as reasonable suspicion for asking anything of me.

Does Mr. Dargan propose that an officer can ask for the drivers license of anyone they pass in the street, whether in a vehicle or not? After all, "what's the big deal?" My holstered firearm, absent any other violation of law, is perfectly safe. Just as safe as the one in the officers holster.

I urge that you not support this measure.

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