WRITTEN TESTIMONY FOR PUBLIC HEARING – 3/14/2016 - HB 5597

THE 2 ACTIVE VOTERS IN OUR HOUSEHOLD URGE YOU TO OPPOSE

HB 5597 *'AN ACT PROTECTING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS SEEKING RESTRAINING ORDERS*

Our main concern is that this bill will violate 'Due Process' without the opportunity for a hearing prior to the forced surrender of firearms.

There are several laws already on the books, (Sec.29-38c and Sec.46b-38b), that allow seizure of firearms while addressing some of the above concerns.

It would be easy for the perpetrator to file the Ex Parte Restraining Order against the person to whom they are after. This would then take the protection away from the one who needs it.

The potential does exist for someone with a grudge to file a claim to harass or harm an innocent person.

Additional Concerns are as follows:

- This bill violates the 2nd Amendment and CT State Constitution.
- Nearly half of all Ex Parte Restraining Orders in 2014 were vacated and did not get ordered by a judge to become a Full Restraining Order.
- In 2015, 37% of all ex Parte temporary restraining orders were found not to be valid after the hearing.

Sincerely,

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