

## Hobart, Jamie

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**From:** Celia Landman <fromcelia@me.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 02, 2016 7:08 PM  
**To:** pstestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony concerning HB 5408, HB 5409, SB 20

### Testimony to the Public Safety and Security Committee of the CT Legislation Concerning HB 5408, HB 5409 and SB 20

The constitution begins with *We. We the people*, our collective society is a “we.” We all want to feel safe and protected. My friends who have guns have told me that they want to protect their families and feel safe. I want to feel safe as well.

When I see a civilian carrying a gun, I have no idea what that person’s mental health status is, their ideology, or if they are under the influence of drugs or alcohol. As a mother, if I saw someone at Wal-Mart with a gun, I would get my kids and run.

I am testifying today to strongly encourage you to support the passage of HB 5408, "to require the holder of a permit for the carrying of any pistol or revolver to present such permit upon request of a law enforcement officer". This gives the public accountability. I want to know that the individual with a gun is not a terrorist or a fugitive.

I oppose HB 5409 that would take away the right of police chiefs to ask for additional documents, in addition to the basic application, to determine the suitability of a person seeking a permit to carry handguns in public. Passing HB 5409 would strip the power and effectiveness of the police and remove my sense of safety and increase fear.

In addition to HB 5408, I support SB 20, which changes the definition of carrying a firearm when intoxicated by reducing the prohibited ratio of alcohol in the blood to eight-

hundreds of one per cent or more of alcohol, making it consistent with the driving while intoxicated standard. We know a car can be lethal in the hands of a compromised person. A gun is no less dangerous and it seems only prudent to give the same concern for public safety with an equal standard.

We need the help and understanding of the legislation, to protect the security of all citizens, and the help and understanding of gun owners. We are all in this together and we all want to feel safe in our communities.

Thank you for you service,

Celia Landman

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