Hello, my name is Elizabeth Drysdale, I am a resident of Cheshire, CT.

I support H.B. 5538 An Act Concerning a Non Expiring Ammunition Permit.

I support H.B. 5539 An Act Concerning Firearms in State Parks.

I do NOT support H.B. 5540 An Act Concerning Ghost Guns and the Permit Application Process for the following reasons.

I do NOT support H.B. 5542 An Act Concerning Bump Stocks and Other Means of Enhancing the Rate of Fire of a Firearm for the following reasons.

Firearms manufacturing is regulated by the federal government. When a state law is in direct conflict with federal law, the federal law prevails. A state law can afford more rights to its residents than federal law, but is not meant to reduce or restrict the rights of a U.S. citizen. I believe this will lead to lawsuits that our state will have to defend and since we are already on the brink of bankruptcy – there are far better ways to spend our declining tax dollars.

Please also keep in mind, that in order to manufacture a firearm, like the one described in the bill, one would need to have the detailed knowledge of firearm mechanics, tool making and the access to the necessary machines to make the parts. The small group of individuals that could successfully do this makes this bill impractical to the point of silliness. Because, of those individuals with the required knowledge, skill and access, most work in the firearms industry and would never do anything to compromise their livelihood or freedom.

Firearms are like the driver’s seat in a vehicle, meant to be easily adapted to the individual user. There is no “standard” for a trigger, or stock or other parts. Bump Stock is far too unrealistic to regulate. It would be like trying to regulate straws at a restaurant.

Instead, why not focus on bills or actions that could make a real difference in the lives of our citizens?

How’s about y’all focus on:
Add professional penalties for LEO local and federal, that fail to follow through or follow-up on tips from the public about a potential shooter. Likewise, hold district attorneys, ADS and Judges professionally responsible for the plea-deals and reduced or waived sentences for true gun crime. Teachers, School Administrators, Doctors, Nurses, etc. have stiff personal penalties as mandated reporters for child abuse and neglect. As a result, they do not mess around. They collectively forward all the data to the appropriate authorities. HOWEVER, there are no repercussions when law enforcement officers fail to do their jobs. If a law enforcement officer, including FBI agents and sheriffs, had their pensions on the line, I believe we would see a different outcome.

If we collectively say to law enforcement personnel, prosecutors and judges – at all levels, if you fail to act and people die, you lose your pension – want to bet we will see a swift change? Our legislative body has the power to hold them accountable for their professional actions. Doing this small change would have little impact on those committed to doing the right thing and a huge change of attitude for those that overlook the clues, signs and warnings.

Case in point: both Sandy Hook and Parkland could have been avoided if the FBI and/or local law enforcement simply DID THEIR JOBS.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Beth Drysdale