

From: Charles J. Bendrick
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To: Judiciary Committee
Representative Kenneth Gucker
Senator Julie Kushner

Subject: March 11th Public Hearing on Gun Bills

I would like to state my opposition to S.B.No.60, H.B.No.7218, H.B.No.7219, and H.B.No.7223. These proposals are inherently unconstitutional, as are the other gun bills passed in Connecticut the last six years. The bills presently under consideration are presumably intended to make everyone safer, but they do no such thing. To borrow from another trending topic: As a result of opioid overdoses, the government has decided that patients and physicians cannot be trusted to act responsibly. Laws have been passed that intimidate patients and physicians, resulting in people not receiving an adequate supply of pain medication. Now back to gun control bills: The government has decided it does not trust its citizens to act responsibly with guns. Therefore, it feels a need to keep them safe by limiting and regulating their actions. The net effect of not trusting citizens is a populace stripped of their freedom and their spirit. Yes, people have died from opioid overdoses, and guns have been used to kill people, but trying to solve these, and other, issues with laws that strip freedom kills everyone a little bit at a time. Freedom causes problems, but trampling rights is not the solution. Ariel Castro held three women captive for 10 years. He was able to do this in part because of the fourth amendment to the United States Constitution. If the authorities had been authorized to search residences for any or no reason, these women would have been rescued much sooner. But people smarter than me decided a long time ago that it's of the highest importance for me to feel secure in my home, free from the threat of random inspections by government agents. I ask that you please stop trying to make me safe. I don't want to be safe. I want to be free.

