

Senator Winfield, Representative Stafstrom, and distinguished members of the Joint Committee on the Judiciary:

My name is John Buckley, I am from New Britain. I am testifying today in support of;

S.B. 940 AN ACT AUTHORIZING CERTAIN PERSONS TO CARRY HANDGUNS IN STATE PARKS AND STATE FORESTS.

There is no reason why a valid permit holder cannot exercise their Second Amendment Right and carry in a State Park.

H.B. 5227 AN ACT CONCERNING THE REGULATION OF FIREARMS BY MUNICIPALITIES.

All firearms laws should be statewide ONLY. It is unreasonable for law abiding citizens to be subjected to various laws as they go from town to town. Additionally, law abiding gun owners could become "criminals" by simply moving from one place to a more restrictive one, simply unreasonable.

H.B. 5870 AN ACT CONCERNING TRANSFER OF ASSAULT WEAPONS AND LARGE CAPACITY MAGAZINES.

These items are already in the registry system. There would be no additional weapons & magazines added due to the restrictions passed in SB 1160 a few years ago. These devices would go from one law abiding gun owner to another. This would help out persons who have family members who pass away and need to have the registered guns removed from the deceased residence. Once again – law abiding.

I'm opposed to;

S.B. No. 60 AN ACT CONCERNING THE PRESENTATION OF A CARRY PERMIT.

As the brother of a retired municipal Police Officer and the brother-in-law of a retired Federal Police Officer, **I FULLY SUPPORT all Law Enforcement Officers.**

However, I do hold sacred my U.S. Constitution Fourth Amendment right that *prohibits unreasonable searches and seizures* and requires any warrant to be judicially sanctioned and supported by *probable cause*.

I am a hard working, law abiding citizen of this state who

- Served my country as an officer in the US Navy for over 21 years
- Retired with the rank of Commander, a Senior Naval Officer position
- Actively Volunteers as an Commissioner for the New Britain Veteran's Commission
- Supported numerous Youth Programs while raising my family such as:
 - Little League coach for 5 years
 - Cub Scout Den Leader for 5 years
 - Religious Education Teacher for 2 years
- Volunteers frequently at various not profit organizations as needed

I have served my country and community with honor and I have medals and citations to prove my claim. I oppose the whole idea that a person like me who minds his own business would have to be subjected to the un-Constitutional search and seizure as proposed by this bill just because I happen to have CT State Permit to Carry Pistols and Revolvers.

I urge you all to please consider the adverse affects of this bill against law abiding people like myself by persons with an agenda against law abiding gun owners and people who support the 2nd Amendment.

H.B. No. 7218 AN ACT CONCERNING THE SAFE STORAGE OF FIREARMS IN THE HOME.

I fully understand the tragic background of this bill. I am also the father of two grown children. Rather than passing a law such as this, which once again harms law abiding gun owners, there **should be a coming together of both sides to promote gun safety EDUCATION** from a young age on such as:
<https://eddiceagle.nra.org/>

This is one area where everyone can agree. I took the NRA pistol course many years ago and I must say that the instruction were over-the-top on gun safety. They actually discouraged the class from carrying a pistol unless you truly felt you could handle the weapon and be prepared to deal with consequences in its use against another person. It was sobering. I feel that people on the anti-firearm over look the value of this, working on common ground for gun education and safety.

Please consider this . . . let's say this becomes law. Just like we have laws against drunk driving, illegal drugs and child abuse, we know that the courts are full of these cases. People are people.

Similarly, should some who has firearms, legally or illegally, choose not to obey the storage law, a child could still be put at risk. Wouldn't it be much, much better not to be an "ostrich" in our schools and communities and hope nothing goes wrong OR train children EXACTLY WHAT TO DO with guns of all types?

I oppose this bill because there are times and places in our state where people have to be ready to defend themselves and time is of the essence. Fiddling with safes & locks could cost a person their life. Criminals intent on robbing homes will love this bill.

H.B. No. 7219 AN ACT CONCERNING GHOST GUNS.

I oppose this bill because it is too vague as to all of the different parts of a firearm. If "ghost guns" are a real problem, the law should be a workable firearm that has illegally been tampered with or the serial number removed. As it is now, it could make a law abiding gun owner simply buying repair parts for a firearm a criminal.

H.B. No. 7223 AN ACT CONCERNING THE STORAGE OF A PISTOL OR REVOLVER IN A MOTOR VEHICLE.

I oppose this bill because is a violation of the Second Amendment, the right to bear arms. The law abiding, permit holding gun owner should make sure the pistol or revolver is under their control at all times. Sometimes locking it up is best, sometimes you need to have it available. This is also going to give a false "sense of security" to some people that all pistols or revolvers in vehicles are going to be locked up. Similarly, gun free zones have been attacked over and over. Now vehicles will be gun free zones. They do not work.