

March 10, 2019

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

My name is Mike Burke, I am from Andover. I am a lifelong resident of CT. I am testifying today in support of:

I am testifying today in opposition to:

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

Connecticut issues permits to “carry pistol and revolvers” without stipulating that they be carried concealed or openly. Therefore, the practice of “open carry” is – literally – permitted in the state of CT. Allowing a police officer to demand the identification and/or permit of someone practicing a constitutional and state right -*absent reasonable suspicion that a crime is being committed/about to be committed* - is a clear violation of the 4th Amendment. A resident of CT should not have to forego one right in order to practice another.

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

This law would do little, if anything to encourage those not inclined to lock up their guns. I believe that advocates for gun safety from the gun control groups and the pro-2A groups here today, along with their champions in the legislature, would be far more effective in educating gun owners of the benefits of locking up guns in homes where minors are present.

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

The language in this bill is vague and redundant to federal law concerning the content of metal in a firearm. The imprecise wording in this bill could define non-firearms as firearms and therefore subject CT residents to arbitrary enforcement.

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

This bill would make a felon of a CT resident whose gun is stolen from their locked car thus, victimizing them a second time. Most gun owners have the wherewithal to lock their firearms in a secure container. I encourage “gun safety” advocates to use their considerable resources to put education before legislation.

I am testifying in support of:

S.B. No. 940 AN ACT AUTHORIZING CERTAIN PERSONS TO CARRY HANDGUNS IN STATE PARKS AND STATE FORESTS

H.B. No. 5227 AN ACT CONCERNING THE REGULATION OF FIREARMS BY MUNICIPALITIES

H.B. No. 5870 AND ACT CONCERNING TRANSFER OF ASSAULT WEAPONS AND LARGE CAPACITY MAGAZINES

Respectfully,

Mike Burke