

March 10, 2019

Distinguished members of the Joint Committee on the Judiciary:

My name is Joseph Gervasio, and I am a resident of Oxford, CT. I am writing to you in support of the following:

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

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

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

I am also writing in opposition of the following:

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

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

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

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

Regarding S.B. 940: As a resident who holds a permit to carry a pistol in this state, it is important to me that my right to carry my firearm and act in self defense of myself and my family extends to CT State Parks and Forests. I see no reason to restrict law-abiding citizens from possessing a firearm in State Parks, however I can think of many scenarios where my life or my families life could be in danger as a result of this right being restricted. If I am on a hike with my family, law enforcement's response time will be significantly delayed, since many trails do not allow vehicle access. I should be able to act in self-defense if a danger presents itself in a State Park, just as I would be able to elsewhere.

Regarding H.B. 5227: If individual municipalities were able to regulate or restrict firearms in any capacity then this virtually invalidates the State issued permit to carry. Cities and towns must abide by the law of the State in regards to a right protected by our State Constitution (sec 15).

Regarding H.B. 7223: A motor vehicle is already equipped with a locking system for when unoccupied. If someone is committing a crime and attempting to burglarize your locked vehicle, the responsibility should fall solely on the criminal, not on the person who is storing their firearm in their locked vehicle.

I strongly urge you to favorably vote; S.B. 940, H.B. 5227, and H.B. 5870 out of the Judiciary Committee. I also strongly urge you to oppose; S.B. No. 60, H.B. No. 7218, H.B. No. 7219, and H.B. No. 7223.

Sincerely,

Joseph Gervasio

Oxford, CT