

## Judiciary Committee Hearing Public Testimony – March 11, 2019

### **HB 7219 – An act concerning ghost guns – OPPOSE**

One major concern I have is that bill seems to expand the definition of a firearm to include antique rifles, which are not considered to be firearms under federal law as well as under other Connecticut laws relating to firearms. Rifles and lower receivers manufactured prior to January 1, 1889 are classified as antiques and are not classified as firearms. This bill would also seem to make a problem with curio and relic firearms (manufactured more than 50 years ago), some of which do not have serial numbers. Modifying these collectable firearms to add a serial number would significantly degrade their value.

I also feel that this bill proposes to address an issue that is not a serious problem and that our government has more pressing issues to deal with.

### **HB 7223 – An act concerning storage of a pistol or revolver in a motor vehicle – OPPOSE**

The wording of this bill precludes locking the handgun in the trunk of a car or in a locked container. The term “securely locked safe” is excessive. This does not clearly define what is meant by a “safe” and would make it almost impossible to comply without excessive expense and modification of the vehicle.

### **SB 940 – An act authorizing certain persons to carry handguns in state parks and forests – SUPPORT**

The walking trails near my house are classified as linear state parks and I am currently prohibited from carrying a firearm for the purpose of self defense while using these trails. While on the trail, I am several miles from the closest road and completely alone and vulnerable to being attacked by people or animals. Because of this, I rarely use these trails

### **HB 5227 – An act concerning the regulation of firearms by municipalities – SUPPORT**

Firearm regulation should be uniform across the entire state. Individual municipalities should not be allowed to have regulations that are more restrictive than those at the state level. This is both unfair and confusing and would lead to people being discriminated against based on where they live or to people being arrested for breaking laws that they were not aware of when visiting a given location. It is unreasonable to expect someone to be an expert on the individual laws of each city in Connecticut.

### **HB 5870 – An act concerning transfer of assault weapons and large capacity magazines – SUPPORT**

This will not add to the inventory of these items, but simply allow legal transfer among firearm enthusiasts.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

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