

To the honorable members of the Judiciary Committee,

Currently there are seven new gun bills proposed for CT. Three of the seven bills I support, but the other four are just plain worthless. I find it appalling that despite CT being an economically failed state that some of our lawmakers seem to have nothing better to do than propose laws that do nothing to make CT safer, but instead infringe upon the rights of law abiding citizens. The following 3 bills I support and urge you to support:

House Bill #5227 “An Act Concerning Transfer of Assault Weapons and Large Capacity Magazines”.

These small changes to the existing law concerning assault style weapons and large capacity magazines are a move in the right direction by the state of Connecticut. The ability of Connecticut Citizens who already legally possess an assault style weapon or large capacity magazine to be able to transfer like in kind items to other already approved Connecticut Citizens provides options for owners of these items. This allows these items to retain some, but not all, of their value.

I personally believe that the next step should be taken. That is to allow any Connecticut Citizen to apply for a permit for these items.

Remember that it is the sworn responsibility of all elected representatives to uphold all the sections of the Connecticut Constitution, especially the Declaration of Rights.

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

This is just common sense. It is already lawful to carry concealed handguns in national parks. Hikers, joggers and cyclists who enjoy our natural resources have a moral right to self defense and personal safety. They deserve a legal right that supports it. Remember, it is not law abiding citizens that are not the threat. Criminals are going to carry anyway.

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

This bill simply serves to protect the rights of **law abiding citizens** to exercise their right to keep and bear arms. Please support it.

Please oppose these bad and misguided pieces of legislation.

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

This would allow police to stop citizens carrying handguns for no reason except to demand that they present their pistol permits. Police already have the authority to search citizens for probable cause. There is no need to extend this authority for no cause. Please oppose this bill.

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

This is a solution looking for a problem that would actually create a problem in that it would require law abiding citizens to make their firearms unavailable for self defense if they have a minor in the home. Please oppose this bill.

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

The title of this bill is very misleading. It would end the centuries old practice of home manufacturing firearms for personal use. Please oppose this bill.

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

I saved the worst for last. This would require gun owners to have locking safes in their vehicles to transport if they step away from the vehicle. I'm not sure when auto manufacturers began installing gun safes in vehicles, but I bought my truck before that date. I have gotten no recall notice about retrofitting my truck with a gun safe, so I assume that GM hasn't caught up to the rest of the industry in that regard. This law would put law abiding citizens such as my self in a dilemma. Imagine this possible scenario. I have to run into the post office, federal or state building for a minute. I am legally carrying a firearm. It is not possible for me to drive back home and lock my gin up. I now must choose which law to break – the one that prohibits me from carrying a firearm into the building or the one that requires me to lock my gun up in the non existent gun safe in my vehicle. I strongly and respectfully urge you to oppose this bill.

Sincerely,
Jack Kavanaugh
Groton, CT