

## Testimony IN OPPOSITION to SB60, HB7218, HB7219, and HB7223

The state of CT has some of the most draconian, Freedom crushing gun control laws on the books. Any more laws WILL NOT be obeyed by lawless criminals, and simply apply "CONTROL" to those people that are not ever the problem. I oppose SB60, HB7218, HB7219, and HB7223 for the following reasons.

**SB60**: The last I knew, we do not live in Nazi Germany of the 1930's and 1940's. Being asked by a law enforcement officer to "show me your papers" for possibly carrying a handgun sounds like the kind of thing a member of the SS would be in favor of. This type of law makes the assumption that if you are simply carrying a firearm, you MUST BE a criminal, or about to commit a criminal act.

**HB7218**: I live in Ashford. We have no town police force, only the shift state troopers out of Troop C. They will get to my house in 5 minutes on a good day, longer in bad weather, or not at all if there is trouble at the prisons or at UConn. I have personal experience with this when I called 911 for a potential intruder at my front door. Luckily, I was able to be armed and the intruder went away. State Police told me they were too busy with weather related accidents to send someone out, and no one ever came out afterwards to investigate. 5 minutes waiting for a state trooper is a lot of time for a criminal to kill or maim the occupants of a house. Gun safety and storage is a matter of personal responsibility and every person's situation is different. It is unreasonable to impose a one-size-fits-all government solution. Such poorly thought out schemes are without any consideration for personal circumstances.

**HB7219**: This bill would essentially end the centuries old practice of manufacturing firearms for personal use by imposing requirements that far exceed those in federal law. The bill language is so broad that nearly any solid, raw materials could also be considered a "firearm." It would require serial numbers be applied to "firearms" in a manner requiring equipment that hobbyists do not usually have and cannot afford, and that federal regulations only require from licensed manufacturers. It also imposes a requirement that firearms made from plastic contain an arbitrary steel alloy that has no effect on the detectability. Federal law already mandates that firearms contain a certain amount of metal content. A solution to a non-problem.

**HB7223**: Most legitimate gun owners already lock up their handguns in their vehicle, unless it is in their direct control or on their person. Having to install a "safe" in a vehicle is just an additional expense designed to penalize legal gun owners for having the gall to transport their firearms. How would such a law be enforced, unless it was discovered during the commission of a crime? Gun safe stop/checks like DUI checkpoints? Does anyone actually think the crack-head gang-banger in Hartford or New Haven is going to abide by such a law? Please learn about firearms and their legitimate owners here in the state before proposing such nonsense in the future.

David E. LaPorte  
212 James Road  
Ashford, CT 06278  
(860) 306-1724