

March 10, 2019

Members of the Joint Committee on the Judiciary,

My name is Deborah Legg and I live in Danbury.

I am writing to let you know that I am in disagreement with these four bills (SB60, HB7218, HB7219, HB7223) that are currently being debated today.

These bills will take away my constitutional right to keep and bear arms. They will also make me, a law abiding citizen, a criminal.

SB 60 would allow a police officer to stop me for no reason at all and demand that I present my pistol permit to them. All it would take would be for them to see an imprint of a weapon in my purse or on my body. Without doing anything at all that might be a violation of a law an officer would be able to stop me. This is against my right to bear arms.

HB7218 would require me to make my firearm unavailable for self defense if a minor is in my home. How am I supposed to protect my family if my firearm is locked up and unloaded when a minor is in my home. I would have my weapon but be unable to use it if someone were to come into my home and threaten my family. I am responsible for teaching my family, and my grandchildren the facts about gun safety. I teach my grandchildren to never talk to strangers, to always tell me if someone has attempted to touch them and also that if they were at a friends house and saw a gun that they should stop, don't touch, leave the area and tell a grownup. I am sure that children and grandchildren of gun owners are more aware of gun safety than a child of someone who does not know anything about guns. I would like to see a law written to get gun safety taught in all the schools. This would help to stop accidental shootings of kids finding guns and playing with them. I would support a bill that would allow gun safety being taught in the school. We could start them as young as possible and continue every year through their senior year in high school.

HB7219 would stop me from being able to make my own firearm. Even though I may never do it, I understand that many firearm owners like to piece together a firearm in their home. This is a hobby for them and can be quite rewarding. It should not be disallowed.

HB7223 would require all gun owners to have a locking safe in their vehicle to transport a gun if they step away from the vehicle. This is just another feel good type type of legislation that does nothing. I have such a locking safe in my vehicle and I feel that most responsible gun owners do today but to mandate it and make it a crime when a vehicle is a locked space is ridiculous. It is just another piece of legislation that ends up hurting the responsible gun owner.

All of these bills do nothing but make responsible gun owners jump through more hoops so that they can continue to bear arms which is my constitutional right.

I thank you for reading my letter and hope that you will vote against the above bills.

Sincerely,

Deborah Legg