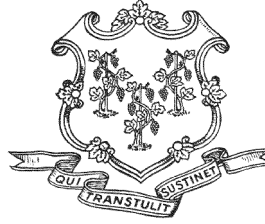


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Good afternoon Senator Winfield, Representative Stafstrom and members of the Judiciary Committee. I am here to express my support for SB No. 60 AN ACT CONCERNING THE PRESENTATION OF A CARRY PERMIT, HB 7219 AN ACT CONCERNING GHOST GUNS, HB 7218, AN ACT CONCERNING THE SAFE STORAGE OF FIREARMS IN THE HOME, and HB 7223, AN ACT CONCERNING THE STORAGE OF A PISTOL OR REVOLVER IN A MOTOR VEHICLE.

SB 60 would require individuals who are openly and visibly carrying a pistol or revolver to produce their permit upon request of a law enforcement officer. This would seem to be a common sense requirement; under Connecticut law, in order to legally carry a pistol or revolver, a person must also be carrying the permit for that weapon. I know that some opponents of this legislation are claiming it is akin to 'stop and frisk' while other opponents claim it allows for illegal search and seizure. Those are alternative facts; the bill before you does not allow an officer to stop and frisk a person who is legally carrying a weapon nor does it allow seizure of such legally carried weapon.

The Second Amendment to the United States Constitution states that "A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right to keep and

bear arms shall not be infringed". This language has long been interpreted to allow certain common sense regulation of gun rights. This bill is one of those regulations.

The requirement in SB 60 is somewhat parallel to the requirement that when driving an automobile a person must be carrying a driver's license. When a driver is asked by an officer to present the license, the driver must comply with the request. It would seem reasonable that a person carrying a pistol or revolver should be subject to the same requirements. It would seem even more justifiable to require presentation of a permit to carry since an openly visible pistol or revolver may cause anxiety to other persons within sight of the weapon. The visible weapon can be used as an intimidation factor even when the person carrying possesses a permit. It is uncommon that the sight of an automobile can cause undue anxiety in any person.

HB 7219 would ban ghost guns. Ghost guns are guns that do not have serial numbers most commonly because they are either sold only partially assembled and thus are not required by current law to have a serial number or are created with a 3D printer. Essentially, a person who wants to own the equivalent of an AR-15 semi-automatic rifle or a Glock semi-automatic pistol but who cannot legally own these weapons can purchase these weapons in a partially assembled state , assemble the parts and then own an equivalent weapon. There is generally no background check and no registration required. It is easy to obtain these parts from website such as Ghost Gunner<sup>1</sup> where an AR-15 "lower receiver" costs \$65 and an AR-15 "jig set" costs \$37. Clearly these sites are meant to exploit loopholes in gun control regulation. Connecticut should

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<sup>1</sup> <https://ghostgunner.net/collections/featured-products>

close this loophole and make our state safer. HB 7219 would close these loopholes and ban guns without serial numbers; it would also regulate firearms that are sold in a partially assembled state or are homemade. This legislation is similar to legislation passed in California in 2016<sup>2</sup>.

I would also like to express my support for HB 7218, AN ACT CONCERNING THE SAFE STORAGE OF FIREARMS IN THE HOME, and HB 7223, AN ACT CONCERNING THE STORAGE OF A PISTOL OR REVOLVER IN A MOTOR VEHICLE. These two bills would improve public safety by requiring safe gun storage. HB 7218 would raise the age under the definition of a minor from 16 to 18 in regard to safe gun storage requirements; it would also require safe storage of firearms regardless of whether such weapon was loaded or unloaded. HB 7223 would require that any pistol or revolver left in an unattended motor vehicle be kept in a securely locked safe. These small changes could save lives.

Thank you for hearing this important common sense legislation.

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<sup>2</sup><https://www.reuters.com/article/us-california-ghostguns/california-governor-signs-bill-to-require-registration-of-ghost-guns-idUSKCN1022MB>