

**Written Testimony for public hearing, March 11, 2019, Hartford Connecticut:**

**Submitted by: Steven J. Rubin of Greenwich, Connecticut. March 9, 2019** in support of the following bills, each of which represents rational and needed safeguards to help stem the appalling, tragic, and continuing gun violence throughout the country and in our state.

**H.B. 7218:** Arms in the home need to be stored properly, allowing limited access. There have been a number of avoidable accidents that have occurred in the home: minors playing with loaded guns with tragic results, for example. This is a simple and effective means of limiting access to guns and keeping weapons out of the hands of minors and others who are not licensed or trained to carry a weapon.

**H.B. 72218:** Stories of children, very young children, left on their own in a mall parking lot, for example, who have inadvertently—or out of curiosity—opened a glove compartment, found a loaded gun and accidentally fired that weapon with horrific results are well-known and unfortunately all too common. This bill will require all firearms stored in vehicles to be properly and securely stored—thereby avoiding future, tragic accidents.

**H.B. 7219:** Perhaps there is nothing more important for gun safety than the banishment of so-called “ghost guns”—guns without registration and without serial numbers. The use of such weapons should not be allowed under any circumstances. They require no background check to purchase and cannot be traced. Crimes have been committed using ghost guns; they have been used in mass shootings. There is no rationale allowing people to evade gun laws because of this loophole. We as a people can no longer accept this threat to public safety.

**S.B. 60:** There is no reason why gun owners should not be required to present their license to carry permit. Drivers of vehicles are required to present their drivers’ license and registration when asked by law enforcement officers if there is due cause. Even hunters and fishermen those are required to have permits and to present them when asked by the proper authorities. Certainly the same should apply to gun owners.

**Conclusion:**

Connecticut has seen the horror of mass shootings. The tragedy of Sandy Hook is synonymous with our state in the minds of many. For this reason alone, we must be known as the state with the best gun laws in the country. Let us be a beacon for our nation!