Good morning,

I am writing to oppose House Bill 5040. Please vote no on a bill that undermines the rights of citizens that enjoy a legally protected right. The group that you are targeting to pay for criminal acts of a few are the most law-abiding people in our state. Connecticut is experiencing vast numbers of "tax-payers" fleeing the state to tax-friendly and 2nd Amendment friendlier environments. Why provide these law-abiding, tax-paying individuals with an additional reason to leave our beautiful state. I believe that the only reason for this bill is to continue the infringement on law-abiding Connecticut resident's ability to own firearms. The money that is expected to be raised will not appear. Most shooting enthusiasts will purchase in bulk out of state. Resulting in fewer sales at local retailers. Although the state sales and use tax is "expected" to be paid on out of state purchases.... can you imagine the cost to enforce this collection? I believe that the continued attacks on honest men and women that appreciate and own firearms have the ultimate goal to restrict all firearm ownership in our state.

Let's change the narrative. Hold criminals responsible when they use a firearm in a crime. Encourage and fund gun safety classes in our schools. Introduce firearms to young people early and teach them to be safe and responsible.

Please oppose and vote no to House Bill 5040.

Thank you,

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