REP. GILCHREST, 18th Dist. Et al.
“Statement of Purpose: To establish an excise tax on ammunition to increase funding for gun violence prevention and reduction efforts.”
This statement of purpose is nebulous at best and at 35% is punitive in intent. The law abiding citizens of this state have well defined law on who may purchase ammunition:

“Effective October 1, 2013, Connecticut prohibits the sale of ammunition or an ammunition magazine to any buyer unless the prospective ammunition purchaser:
• Has a handgun carry permit, gun sales permit, or long gun or handgun eligibility certificate, and presents such a credential to the seller; or
• Has an ammunition certificate and presents to the seller such certificate along with a driver’s license, passport, or other valid government-issued identification that contains the person’s photograph and date of birth.”

All of these require a background check and fee.

Those that commit violence with firearms have no respect for the law and constitute a small percentage of the population as documented in many studies on the propensity of crime and violence. Focus on them and you will see prevention and reduction. Attempting to tax the validity of the second amendment out of existence is not the answer. Prudent expenditure of existing funds (taxes) for public safety is a place to start.

This is a blatant example of “feel good legislation” with a hidden agenda.

I pay my taxes, federal, state and municipal, have served in the armed forces of this great nation and have lived in Connecticut for decades. Legislation of this nature will do nothing to help Connecticut residents and adds to the list of why stay in Connecticut.

I respectfully submit that this legislation not be advanced. Thank you.
Philip S. Bauckman Jr. 860-305-9602