I oppose this bill. It is blatantly political and fundamentally unfair.

Since when do we tax a right? We do not tax citizens to attend church or to refrain from doing so. We do not tax citizens speak freely. We do not tax citizens to peacefully assemble. Did I pay a tax to write this testimony, petitioning my government? Do I need to pay a fee to be secure against unreasonable search or for the right to a fair trial? The 24th Amendment abolished the poll tax. We are not taxed to exercise our right to vote. Why then are we proposing a tax to exercise our rights protected under the Second Amendment to the US Constitution and Article 1, Sec 15 of the Connecticut State Constitution?

Representative Gilchrest has proposed a tax that she will never have to pay. It is easy for her and her followers to support an egregious tax on a product they will never buy. I feel confident in my assumption that they never have and never will purchase ammunition. I am also certain that it was easy for Parliament to pass the Stamp Act in 1765 as well, since that too was a tax they and their supporters would never pay.

I have tried to find another example wherein one group of citizens (gun owners) is taxed to fund and promote political groups that are diametrically opposed to their very existence. I am at a loss. The closest analogy to this I can think of would be a tax on registered Democrats to fund the Trump 2020 reelection campaign.

Please, in the name of fairness and freedom, do not forward this bill.