Feb. 22, 2010

RE: H.B. 5040 AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN EXCISE TAX ON AMMUNITION

Connecticut Legislatures,

Taxing firearm ammunition at 35 percent is irresponsible at best. Legal firearm owners must not be punished because our legislators / law enforcement cannot get a handle on illegal firearm owners.

You, as a policy maker have a responsibility to take a good hard look at our laws and consequences for criminals, felons, and illegal firearm owners who are shooting up schools, churches, and public buildings.

With a 35% tax increase; Connecticut will only encourage residents to frequent neighboring states to LEGALLY purchase ammunition.

This can't possible seem logical to our law-makers?

Hartford newspaper headline - “Jan 22, 2020 - Hartford Man Sentenced to 2 Years in Federal Prison for Illegal Gun Possession.”

https://www.gunfacts.info/gun-policy-info/crime-and-guns/ article -

Crime and Guns

Basic to the debates on gun control is the fact that most violent crime is committed by repeat offenders. Dealing with repeat offenders is key to solving violence.

- 71% of gunshot victims had previous arrest records.
- 64% had been convicted of a crime.
- Victims had an average of 11 prior arrests.
- 63% of victims had criminal histories and 73% of that group knew their assailant (twice as often as victims without criminal histories).
- 74% of homicides during the commission of a felony involve guns.

Most gun violence is between criminals. This should be the public policy focus.
Respectfully,

Debra Giambra