To the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee:

Please listen to the voices of Connecticut residents and professionally represent our wishes. Respect our voices. It's saddens me that believe our elected officials are this disconnected. Before you place my testimony in a pro-gun or anti-gun stereotype. Consider this, As a father, husband, former police officer and certified police instructor, there is nothing more important than the safety of my family, community, and fellow citizens. Stop Connecticut's aggressive use of Nolle Prosequi for gun crimes of repeat offenders.

When I saw the proposal for a new Tax over and beyond sales tax. Simply foolish and highly bias. I have watched countless friends, and businesses, no longer able to afford to live or survive, let alone prosper in our beloved State. Connecticut is dying and you are about to strike a lethal blow. Stop, just stop this.

This tax is a foolish, and bias move; economically, morally, and socially. This tax will cost people their LIVES and LIVELIHOODS. This level of economic disparity is borderline Racist and Criminal.

What Provisions will you put in place, think ammunition for training. TRAINING.

For many individuals, your fellow citizens, this is a critical part of their daily lives. Its not just a sport or a hobby to them. Many other agencies yes including our precious police departments will suffer. I know the cost of proficiency and liability. Many of my brother and sister officers pay out of their own pocket to seek out his proficiency.

State wildlife conservation, which is largely if not entirely funded by Connecticut sportsmen will suffer. You cannot tax or legislate your way to safety, this is a unwise move and a flawed line of thinking. I strongly opposes HB5040. The problems is not with ammunition or gun owners it is a Mental Health, Judicial system, people problem that we all must face. BUT NOT IN THIS WAY. Again opposition to H.B. 5040 AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN EXCISE TAX ON AMMUNITION.

Craig Kupson