Stop H.B. 5040, a bill that seeks to infringe upon the constitutional rights of our law-abiding citizens. Selective and excessive taxation of any product serves to curtail purchases of that product while putting increased financial burdens on the consumer. In the case of firearm ammunition, H.B. 5040 fails the citizens of this State in two ways.

The first failure of H.B. 5040 is that it would directly infringe upon the constitutional right of citizens’ functional access to firearms and firearms related materials. Our Connecticut Constitution puts the right of citizen self-protection BEFORE the defense of the State. The second failure of H.B. 5040 would be that, the intent to attempt to curb criminal access to and use of firearms and ammunition, it would only impact law-abiding citizens, instead of the intended criminal elements or prevent violence.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide opposing testimony regarding this bill.

Respectfully,

Michael P. Lathrop

Eastford Connecticut