Opposition to Proposed Bill 5040 - AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN EXCISE TAX ON AMMUNITION.

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It should be self evident that this is in no way a bill to stop or fight “gun violence” but rather a sidelong attack on responsible citizens and their constitutional rights with the crass objective of hijacking the income of hard working citizens.

This tax is disguised by the “35 cents a round” statement as people do not buy ammunition individually. I heard it misrepresented as a 35 percent tax, in the actual amount is 35 cents a round. This amounts to a tax that is potentially an 800% tax. Regardless, both a 35% tax or 35 cent tax is irresponsible.

The proposition that this tax in any way will gain the benefits proposed is incorrect, much like the plastic bag tax it will neither generate revenue, as the tax is too onerous, nor will it serve to benefit the public as its magnificent claims of fighting “gun violence” imagine. Much like the plastic bag tax, it will likely only serve as a de facto ban on CT ammunition sales, while allowing the proponents of it to credulously claim otherwise.

This would turn an economical plinking/hunting round that is 5 cents per round in bulk into a 40 cent round. The end effect would to make a 1400 round bulk pack that would normally cost $69.99 at Cabelas cost $559.99. This calculation is just to show how preposterous Proposed Bill 5040 is. Even at the misstated 35% it is excessive, in fact any excise tax of this sort is excessive.

To be clear, I oppose Proposed Bill 5040 AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN EXCISE TAX ON AMMUNITION in all and any forms and thank those legislators that oppose it as well! I hope that this ill Proposed Bill will be dropped and any future attempt to resurrect it will cease also. Instead I ask that future legislation expand and promote the rights of responsible citizens rather than burden them with nonsense of this sort. If there is to be legislation to stop violence it be directed realistically to that goal, again with the simple test that it not burden responsible citizens and not curb their rights.

Lee Cavanaugh