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

Subject: Oppose H.B. 5040

Dear Senator Fonfara, Representative Rojas, Distinguished Members of the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee,

I strongly urge you to oppose H.B. 5040. My primary objections to this bill are the following:

1) This bill disproportionately burdens lower and fixed income families.
2) This bill unfairly targets one subset of citizens, one of the most law-abiding, to pay for crimes they have no responsibility for, while excluding everyone else, including those actually responsible for crime.
3) This bill will actually work against gun safety by reducing the amount of training that responsible gun owners can afford. Practice and proficiency with a defensive weapon is paramount and should not be discouraged. The fact that the bill excludes municipalities and law enforcement officers obviously recognizes this principle.
4) For the thousands of competitive shooters in Connecticut, this tax would place a huge burden hindering their ability to pursue their pastime.

I hope that you will consider these objections and oppose this bill.

Best regards,

Thomas Phelps

Lisbon, CT