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

Subject: Oppose H.B. 5040

February 23, 2020

Dear Senator Osten, Representative Dubitsky, 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:

Currently, ammunition is double taxed. There is a federal tax collected by the ammunition wholesale procurement that supports the operation of federal parks. This tax cost is passed on the retail purchase of ammunition. Therefore, when one of your constituent's purchases, for example, $111.00 of ammunition, $11.00 is federal tax which another 6.35% state tax of also applied.

I am a 60-year-old retiree on a fixed 401K income. One of my main hobbies is target and trap shooting. If H.B. 5040 is approved it will place an additional financial burden on my wife and myself.

If H.B. 5040 is approved, sporting goods/gun shops will lose business, fueling an economic downturn and may create a black market for ammunition, thus fueling crime. Felons can’t buy ammunition, but H.B. 5040 may have increased their availability to ammunition.

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

Sincerely,

Mark Sasarak

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Lebanon