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 am writing you to let you know my opposition to House Bill 5040 and strongly urge you to oppose it.

This repackaged version of the same bill last year that proposed a 50% tax on ammunition, is somewhere between disingenuous and dishonest. When proposed as a 50% tax, the express purpose was to reduce and prevent ammunition purchases. Currently proposed as a 35% tax, it is now being pitched as a funding mechanism for "gun violence" prevention programs.

I do not believe that if passed, any supportive legislators would start encouraging ammunition purchases to help fund these programs. The real goal is to infringe on citizens' second amendment right, hindering their ability to purchase ammunition and defend themselves, and to punish gun owners.

Why has no similar tax been proposed on knives to fund "knife violence" prevention programs? What would you think of a 35% tax on baby formula in order to fund "Birth to Three" programs? These are all bad ideas.

As I've stated before to my legislators, I'm looking for reasons to stay in Connecticut when there are so many obvious reasons to leave, tax increases every year, new laws increasing the cost to live here, tolls, etc.

HB 5040 will do nothing to prevent violence, add to my cost of living here, and just be one more reason to leave. Please oppose this bill

Seth Walter
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