February 26, 2020

**Opposition** to House Bill No. 5040 Establishing an Excise Tax on Ammunition

Members of the Finance Committee,

I’m writing to you to oppose Proposed Bill No 5040. This bill amounts to a punitive tax on law abiding gun owners and provides no guidelines for the use of the funds. This excessive tax on ammunition places an unfair burden on those that are exercising their 2nd amendment rights. Why would you think it’s ok to saddle legal gun owners with the cost of funding gun violence prevention? This bill is a clear infringement on our constitutional right to bear arms and discriminates against gun owners. This bill should be killed in committee.

I would further note that in order to be a safe and competent gun owner one must target practice. Practice ensures one’s ability to safely use their fire arm. This tax would make such practice a costly burden and cause law abiding gun owners to be less proficient at handling their fire arms.

For these reasons you should kill this bill in committee and I request that you vote no on House Bill 5040.

Maria Smith