I strongly oppose H.B 5040 establishing an excise tax on ammunition. This is simply a tax on law abiding gun owners to hinder them from exercising their constitutionally protected civil rights, something the Supreme Court of the United States has determined is unconstitutional.

I am a lifelong resident of Connecticut employed in manufacturing as a toolmaker and homeowner. I enjoy shooting sports for recreation. I have been a pistol permit holder since 2008.

The proposed bill does not specify where the money will be spent that is raised by this punitive tax to “fight gun violence”. If it is given to private non-profit gun control organizations, it will be squandered following pointless pursuit of gun prohibitions and doing nothing to stop the actual violence in the streets. This has been proven by every gun control law enacted over the last 100 years.

There are programs that have been successful in other states where programs have been created to reduce criminal violence in general, including the misuse of a gun (usually by someone who is legally prohibited from owning a gun or ammunition, not a state permit holder). These programs focus on the people who are the perpetrators and victims of the violence, not on the uninvolved.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this ill-advised legislation.

Adam Woodruff

Washington, Connecticut