

Dear Sirs:

I was at your hearing today and left, when I found out I would not be able to testify until very late at night. Following is my opinion on the above subject:

Dear Sirs:

I am adamantly opposed to any legislation that limits the access to firearms and ammunition for the purposes of self-protection, hunting, and sport shooting.

It was the opinion of George Washington that, "Owning a weapon and enough ammunition to defend yourself and the government was a duty and an obligation." He also said "A free state is an armed state." It is clear from these and other quotes and the second amendment to the Constitution, that the founding fathers meant for the public to be armed.

The recent gun law in New York State has made it necessary to register all rifles. I am opposed to any similar legislation here in Connecticut. Registration was a prelude to confiscation in Nazi Germany and Communist Russia. I think otherwise law-abiding citizens would resist this, as well they should. This in itself would make criminals out of law-abiding citizens.

On the issue of gun violence and children's safety, I think there are already enough laws on the books. The recent tragedy at Sandy Hook was the result of a madman that obtained weapons as the result of murder and robbery. Adam Lanza is dead. I don't think you can legislate violence out of existence. Criminal minds will always find a way. Look at what 12 determined men with box cutters did on 9/11. Restricting the rights of honest citizens to defend themselves is not the answer.

Respectfully,
Gary Colbeth