

Hello,

My name is Alexander Pensiero and I am writing today from Farmington, CT to testify in opposition to further gun control laws. I feel that if any effort needs to be put toward this issue it should surround mental health instead of the banning of firearms based on cosmetic and arbitrary reasons. I feel any further measure to restrict modern sporting rifles is an infringement on our constitutional rights to bear arms.

- Modern sporting rifles or "assault weapons" as they are wrongly labeled are not the root of our issue in this country. These firearms are primarily used for sporting purposes like hunting or target shooting and in some cases self defense. They cannot fire automatically and they are not any more dangerous than a hunting rifle, they have cosmetic features that allow them to appeal and work better for different bodied persons. The infamous pistol grip is merely a comfort device that gives no more potential to the firearm for malicious purposes.
- Magazine size limitations are baseless and useless legislation for protecting our law abiding citizens. Many law abiding Connecticut citizens carry firearms day to day that contain more than ten rounds. The purpose being to have the best chance at defending themselves, their family and their children against criminals; criminals who do not abide by the laws that are made surrounding firearms. Putting a ban on magazine capacity will only hurt your good hearted citizens and make them inferior to criminals and the mentally ill who are out to harm them.
- Firearm owners and supporters of the second amendment are not crazy, conspiring, gun-nuts that are heartless during tragedies like the one we have suffered in Connecticut as the media is painting us. We are deeply saddened that someone would commit such an atrocity and want to help in preventing future tragedies. We feel that guns are not even remotely the issue with these tragedies, where the people behind the trigger are. These people will always find a way to cause harm to others and we just want a fighting chance at denying these horrible people of their wishes.

I, with many other CT residents exercise my rights and do not want them stripped of me based on the actions of horrible individuals. It would be a dishonor to our state and to our country to pass these proposed gun control bills as well as a blatant disregard to our constitution. Thank you for considering my input on this topic.

Regards,

Alexander Pensiero