

Please see below on comments regarding gun safety and legislation stemming from the Newtown tragedy.

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** A & J Ossolinski <[ajeosso@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ajeosso@sbcglobal.net)>

**To:** [kevin.witkos@cga.ct.gov](mailto:kevin.witkos@cga.ct.gov)

**Sent:** Thu, February 7, 2013 4:55:11 PM

**Subject:** 2d Amendment Rights and Responsibilities

Dear Mr. Witkos,

My name is Andrew Ossolinski I am a pistol and rifle owner, a law abiding citizen, and I live in New Hartford with my wife and three sons. I have been a member of the CT Army National Guard (CTARNG) for 29 years and am currently on Active Duty with the CTARNG as a Major. I wanted to write to you and express my views in regards to gun legislation in CT. I am an Iraq War veteran and have served as the CTARNG's Anti-terrorism, Force Protection, and Physical Security Officer in the recent past. I was a member of the All Guard International Rifle Team and have participated in the competition shooting sports since the late 1980's.

I am a member of the NRA and also believe in reasonable gun control measures. I don't believe, for me, that the two are mutually exclusive positions. I believe in responsible gun ownership that stays within the Constitutional rights guaranteed us by our Founding Fathers.

Please consider some ideas to help you shape any gun legislation you might be part of:

1. If you own weapons, all of them should have trigger locks on them by law. Failure to do so would result in a misdemeanor/fine. If Ms. Lanza had trigger locks on her weapons it is quite possible Newtown would never have happened.
2. Background checks should be law on all firearm purchases. I don't think that is unreasonable.
3. I think it is unreasonable to tax ammunition and firearm purchases in a way to backdoor stop law abiding citizens from purchasing weapons or ammunition. That is heavy handed government.
4. I am against the banning of semi automatic rifles of any visual type. It is a fact that these weapons are not the weapons that are statistically causing the most harm in our society. Logic and facts; not sensationalism, should dictate our legal policies.
5. I am against the registering of any firearm in a government database. If you look at Great Britain, and their registration experiment, it does allow the government to someday have the ability to confiscate law abiding citizen's weapons like they did in Great Britain. Canada found it to be time consuming and cost prohibitive before they did away with gun registration.

6. I am for limiting magazines to 10 rounds in semi-automatic rifles only. Most competition events you don't need more than that in the magazine to compete and you certainly don't need more than that for home defense.

7. I think the State of CT should make it easier for mental health care providers and loved ones to get the mental help they need via easier conservatorship laws. Again if Ms. Lanza had that ability Newtown might have been prevented.

8. The nexus between mental health medication and violent video games/movies needs to be researched. UCONN should be funded via legislation to research this. CT could lead the nation in this.

9. I am for the immediate repeal of the semi auto rifle registration that took place in CT back in 1993. It didn't work in Newtown and is foolish to ban weapons with bayonet lugs or flash suppressors. Hysteria based law does not make good law it just hurts law abiding citizens that have a Constitutional right to bear arms.

10. This is off the subject but we should help towns harden all exterior school doors to slow down or stop intruders coming into our schools. If Newtown had this it probably would have given law enforcement time to get there before he was able to gain entry into the school. From my experience it does not cost that much money to do this.

11. It is reasonable to close the loophole of weapon purchasing at gun shows without background checks.

I hope these ideas have been helpful to you. I appreciate the time you have taken to read this.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Andrew P. Ossolinski  
68 Holcomb Hill Road  
New Hartford, CT 06057  
860-738-4168