

TESTIMONY TO THE BIPARTISAN TASK FORCE ON GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION
AND CHILDREN'S SAFETY -- GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Dear Sir or Madam,

I, too, grieve for the victims of Newtown. The pain inflicted by that evil criminal is unimaginable, and I sympathize with the pressures you legislators feel to "DO SOMETHING" in response. Please do not overreact by enacting any legislation that restricts my Constitutional right to bear arms.

- (1) Instead, please pass a ban on criminals.
- (2) Please also outlaw evil.
- (3) Please realize that either of the above policy solutions would likely be as effective as the proposed gun restrictions at preventing evil criminals from inflicting further murderous rampages upon innocent Connecticut citizens.
- (4) If you intentionally set high hurdles for peaceful people to own arms, please consider why you are not doing the same for cars, airplanes, knives, baseball bats, bows/arrows and hammers - all of which are tools used by evil criminals in high-profile violent crimes.
- (5) Please remember the oath you swore when assuming office. The oath requires you to swear to uphold the Constitutions of both the United States and State of Connecticut. As a reminder, Article I, Section 15 of Connecticut's Constitution reads, "Every citizen has a right to bear arms in defense of himself and the state."
- (6) Please consider whether the proposed punitive regulations and taxation on firearms, which are intentionally designed to reduce the number of law-abiding citizens who own them, truly complies with either Constitution.
- (7) Please also consider whether the principled legislative route would be to amend the Connecticut Constitution, rather than to pass a law that requires a twisted interpretation of the plain language of the Connecticut Constitution. Does the Constitution matter? Did you not swear an oath to uphold it?

Thank you for your consideration of this peaceful gun owner's plea for cool heads to prevail, in memory of Newtown and all crime victims of our State.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Caitlin Long, Greenwich