

Public Testimony from Charles C. Hooper

Bipartisan Task Force on Gun Violence Prevention and Children's Safety

1/28/2013

To the Honorable Members of the Connecticut Bipartisan Task Force on Gun Violence Prevention and Children's Safety:

Thank you for your service and for reading my testimony. My name is Charles Hooper. I am 28 years old and was born and raised in Connecticut. After high school, I served honorably in the active duty military and the Connecticut Air National Guard. I just recently obtained my Bachelor's degree through the Connecticut State University system while also working as a software engineer over the past six years. In addition to the above, I am also a faithful voter, taxpayer, and law-abiding citizen. I am writing you today to tell you that I am *against* reactionary legislation and *for* common sense enforcement of the existing firearm laws.

According to the Office of Legislative Research report 2007-R-0442 entitled Case Statistics for Firearm Violations for the years 2001-2007, an appalling 71% of the 26,725 people arrested for firearms violations were not prosecuted. I have included a summary below:

<u>State Statute</u>	<u>Title of Statute</u>	<u>% arrested and not prosecuted</u>
CGS § 29-35(a)	CARRYING PISTOL WITHOUT A PERMIT	58%
CGS § 53-202c	ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF ASSAULT WEAPON (CGS § 53-202c)	47%
CGS § 53-202k	USE FIREARM TO COMMIT A CLASS A, B, OR C FELONY (CGS § 53-202k)	72%
CGS § 53a-212	STEALING A FIREARM (CGS § 53a-212)	73%
CGS § 53a-217b	POSSESS FIREARM OR DEADLY WEAPON ON SCHOOL GROUND (CGS § 53a-217b)	83%
CGS § 53a-217c	CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF PISTOL OR REVOLVER (CGS § 53a-217c)	55%
Total...	...	71%

Given the above, I am against and urge you to vote **NO** on the following bills (as well as similarly-themed bills) and push for stronger enforcement of the laws already on the books.

<u>Bill No.</u>	<u>Bill Title</u>	<u>Action Requested</u>
HB-5112	AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISCLOSURE OF THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PERSONS HOLDING HANDGUN PERMITS.	Vote NO
HB-5268	AN ACT REQUIRING THE MAINTENANCE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE BY FIREARM OWNERS AND ESTABLISHING A SALES TAX ON AMMUNITION.	Vote NO
SB-1	AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND OTHER INDIVIDUALS FROM VIOLENCE.	Vote NO
SB-42	AN ACT CONCERNING THE CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF AMMUNITION.	Vote NO
SB-122	AN ACT CONCERNING RESTRICTIONS ON GUN USE.	Vote NO
SB-124	AN ACT BANNING LARGE CAPACITY AMMUNITION MAGAZINES.	Vote NO
SB-140	AN ACT CONCERNING LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR FIREARM OWNERS AND SALES TAX ON AMMUNITION . AN ACT CONCERNING THE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR A TEMPORARY STATE PERMIT TO CARRY A PISTOL OR REVOLVER.	Vote NO
SB-161	AN ACT CONCERNING THE REDUCTION OF GUN VIOLENCE.	Vote NO

Thank you for your time in reading my testimony. Please contact me if you have additional comments or concerns.

Very Respectfully,

Charles Christopher Hooper

1804 ½ Boston Turnpike

Coventry, CT 06238