

Hello,

The taxing of ammunition and the banning of internet sales only hurts law abiding gun owners. The 170 rounds that the shooter used in Newtown cost fewer than 100 dollars before the shooting. Is an extra 50\$ really going to stop someone like that? You are also taxing a right. A bullet falls under the category of "arms" and putting out a specific ammo tax is akin to the poll taxes that were created in the south to prevent less wealthy African American's from voting. Much like the old poll taxes an ammo tax will hurt the less wealthy far more than those with money.

One can look at the recent debate on Sunday alcohol sales when it comes to how effective state wide taxes and bans are. Until recently if one wanted to buy alcohol on a Sunday the only option was to drive out of state. When I was in school at the University of Connecticut I saw this happen with great frequency despite the drive to the Massachusetts border. For people in the northern part of CT, what is to stop them from just driving out of state and bulk buying ammo in Vermont? This will completely circumvent any of the proposed ammo taxes and hurt CT business, which the state relies on to keep itself funded.

It has been shown that an armed citizen can stop a potential spree killer. The Clackamas Town Center mall shooting that took place in Oregon involved a gunmen opening fire in a mall, a gun free zone like most of the recent spree killings have happened in. An armed citizen confronted the shooter, at which point the shooter committed suicide. The media has stated that an armed citizen has never stopped a mass shooter. I contend that an armed citizen has never stopped a mass shooter, because gunmen confronted by armed citizens don't get the chance to kill people to the point where the shooting becomes "mass". If laws such as clarifying Connecticut's position on gun free zones in schools get passed, it will be necessary for citizens to be better trained to respond to threats. The only way to do this is to allow people access to the tools needed to train, ammunition at a fair price.

So called "assault weapons" are excellent for self-defense against armed attackers. The police have overwhelmingly chosen the police as a patrol rifle, this includes the university of Connecticut police department. If, according to Joe Biden, a double barrel shotgun is better at dealing with the threat of an armed attacker why are the police not using them? Why are our soldiers defending our bases overseas not using double barreled shotguns? To those that say that the AR-15 and other "assault weapons" only purpose is to spray bullets and mow down dozens of people rapidly, I ask under what circumstances would an officer of the law need to do such a thing?

By instating new laws such as ammo taxes, ban on internet sales, and liability insurance on firearms, you reduce the opportunities for the responsible gun owner to train with their own firearms. By reducing those training opportunities you have reduce the ability of the citizen to act effectively and judiciously if the need presents itself.

I oppose any of the laws that make it more difficult for law abiding citizens to obtain firearms that are useful for self-defense. Remember that **ARTICLE 1, SECTION 15 OF THE CONNECTICUT STATE CONSTITUTION STATES "EVERY CITIZEN HAS A RIGHT TO BEAR ARMS IN DEFENSE OF HIMSELF AND THE**

STATE” Any law that raise the cost of owning a firearm by taxation or requirements of insurance will prohibit certain groups of people from possessing arms as guaranteed by the state constitution.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Charles Kniffin

The proposals I oppose are as follows:

SB-600 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE PURCHASE OF A RIFLE OR SHOTGUN.

SB-601 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEFINITION OF ASSAULT WEAPON

SB-607 - AN ACT CONCERNING APPLICATION FOR A TEMPORARY PERMIT TO CARRY A PISTOL OR REVOLVER.

SB-608 - AN ACT PROHIBITING THE POSSESSION, IMPORTATION, TRANSFER OR SALE OF CERTAIN TYPES OF UNREASONABLY DANGEROUS AMMUNITION

SB-609 - AN ACT PROHIBITING THE PURCHASE OF MORE THAN ONE PISTOL OR REVOLVER IN A THIRTY-DAY PERIOD.

SB-610 - AN ACT ELIMINATING THE OPTION OF OBTAINING AN ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATE FOR A PISTOL OR REVOLVER.

SB-611 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE FEE FOR ISSUANCE AND RENEWAL OF A STATE PERMIT TO CARRY A PISTOL OR REVOLVER.

SB-606 - AN ACT CONCERNING APPLICATION CRITERIA FOR A PERMIT TO CARRY A PISTOL OR REVOLVER.

SB-605 - AN ACT CONCERNING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PURCHASE OF A RIFLE OR SHOTGUN.

SB-612 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE PENALTY FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OR TRANSFER OF A FIREARM.

SB-613 - AN ACT CONCERNING GUN VIOLENCE.

SB-615 - AN ACT PROHIBITING THE DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS NEAR PRIVATE RESIDENCES.

HB-5950 - AN ACT REDUCING THE INCIDENCE OF GUN VIOLENCE.

SB-140 - AN ACT CONCERNING LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR FIREARM OWNERS AND SALES TAX ON AMMUNITION.

SB-161 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE REDUCTION OF GUN VIOLENCE

SB-122 - AN ACT CONCERNING RESTRICTIONS ON GUN USE

HB-5268 - AN ACT REQUIRING THE MAINTENANCE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE BY FIREARM OWNERS AND ESTABLISHING A SALES TAX ON AMMUNITION.

HB-5112 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISCLOSURE OF THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PERSONS HOLDING HANDGUN PERMITS.

SB-42 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF AMMUNITION.

SB 124 - AN ACT BANNING LARGE CAPACITY AMMUNITION MAGAZINES.

SB 501

SB 504

I support the following:

HB-5224 AN ACT ELIMINATING RISK REDUCTION CREDITS

HB-5165 AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEFENSE OF A PERSON'S HOME, MOTOR VEHICLE OR BUSINESS

HB-5176 AN ACT CONCERNING THE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR A TEMPORARY STATE PERMIT TO CARRY A PISTOL OR REVOLVER

HB-5269 AN ACT INCREASING THE PENALTY FOR CRIMINAL USE OF A FIREARM OR ELECTRONIC DEFENSE WEAPON

HB-5952 AN ACT INCREASING THE PENALTY FOR THE UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF A FIREARM

HB-5683 AN ACT CONCERNING COURT ORDERED OUTPATIENT PSYCHIATRIC TREATMEN

AN ACT ALLOWING SCHOOL BOARDS TO ESTABLISH PROTOCOLS PERMITTING SCHOOL PERSONNEL OR STAFF TO POSSESS WEAPONS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

SB-604 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE SECURE SAFEKEEPING OF FIREARMS (comment: This would have to stand up to 4th amendment scrutiny)

SB 496