

I am a law-abiding citizen of CT, a working professional, a homeowner, a tax payer, a registered voter, a veteran of the armed forces and a gun owner. I own firearms for competitive target shooting, for hunting, and for protection of my family. The legislation being proposed would turn me into a criminal.

The bills currently being posed in both the CT house and senate including HB5268, SB140, SB122, and SB124 and any additional proposed citizen disarmament legislation will do nothing more than punish law-abiding citizens for the actions of a madman. The previous “assault weapons” and magazine ban was found to have no benefit in reducing violent crime per the 2004 Department of Justice study (Document # 204431). This was further substantiated by no increase in violent crime when the bill lapsed on the federal level. In fact regions where firearms are banned such as Chicago, DC and NYC have some of the highest crime rates in the country proving that these types of laws only effect law-abiding citizens. Criminals are criminals because they do not follow the law.

Why is there a rush to push anti-gun legislation before the events of Newtown are available and understood? Newtown is a tragedy of the highest order however the gun(s) itself is not the root cause. This madman murdered his mother, stole weapons, broke into a school and went into a rampage. Perhaps a page out of the Rahm Emanuel playbook of “You never let a serious crisis go to waste.” is being taken. Are legislatures jumping on pushing their long-standing agenda of anti-gun legislation as quick as possible in the hopes it will fly through similar to the recent citizen disarmament legislation “enacted” in NY?

I urge you to oppose additional legislation stripping law-abiding citizens of their constitutional rights. We already have some of the toughest firearms legislation in the country. Let’s instead enforce the descent laws we currently have in place.

I appeal to you to instead focus on legislation that will make a meaningful difference such as addressing mental health care and school safety.

Regards,

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