

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to express opposition to any increase in Connecticut's already onerous gun laws.

Let's not mince words. It's clear that Governor Malloy is pushing for a much stiffer version of the recently passed and wholly egregious New York legislation. It can't possibly be good for his carefully managed image in Washington that a neighboring state was first to impose an obviously pre-staged package of legislative measures, using the excuse provided by the atrocities committed by a deranged young man in our own state. So we gun owners and patriots see what's coming. You'll put together your own package, get the votes necessary with almost no opposition, and the Governor will make instant felons out of us with the stroke of his pen. We can see that coming.

But consider the following. My wife and I have decided to vote with our feet and leave Connecticut at the earliest possible opportunity. There are much greener pastures than Connecticut in this great country of ours, and we intend to find a state that values personal freedom and responsibility, and that respects its citizens enough to maintain a balanced budget.

And when I vote with my feet, my wallet will follow. There'll be no more income tax on my rather nice salary, not next year, or the year after, or for maybe the next 15 years or so that I would have gladly stayed in Connecticut to finish up my career as a scientist. We'll stop buying gas in Connecticut, to the tune of \$600 a month - bye-bye, gas tax! No more sales tax either. The city of Torrington will be deprived of \$10,000 a year in property taxes - ouch! No more vehicle registrations, no emissions tests, no more electricity or cable or phone taxes - nothing. Our kids are coming with us, and unless we did a horrible job teaching them the value of a dollar and the importance of personal freedom, they'll never return to Connecticut. So there go three in-state tuitions to UConn - hey, that works for me! It's got to be cheaper elsewhere. And don't count on any of the above income streams from any of my grandchildren, either.

Sure, we're just one family, and our economic impact may be but a drop in the bucket. But even a pinhole leak will drain a bucket eventually, and I suspect that we will not be the only patriots voting with our feet. So as you tax and regulate away your best and brightest citizens, keep in mind that the money you rely on to fund the programs that buy the votes needed to keep you in power will be walking out the door, never to return.

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