

Attn: Gun Violence Work Group, (This is Public Testimony)

Dear Representatives and Senators of the Gun Violence Work Group:

I appreciate the opportunity to provide this public comment on the legislature's proposals affecting gun owners.

SB-377 Suspension/Revocation of Pistol Permit for Drunk Driving

Under 53-206d, gun owners are already subjected to restrictions and legal penalties. To require additional penalties and possible permanent loss of their pistol permit because they otherwise were arrested for drunk driving is harassment and discriminatory. It might be more tolerable and understandable if the law also provided for permanent loss of a drivers license upon a second DUI infraction. What other category of citizen is targeted for special penalties and losses unrelated to the immediate offense?

Obviously this legislation would NOT exempt law enforcement, military, bail enforcement, security personnel, etc. since these persons should be held to even higher standards than the common gun owner. This discrimination and harassment of gun owners is reprehensible and embarrassing that it was even elevated to consideration.

SB-501, 504 Assault Weapons Definition, Hi-Cap magazine Ban

I object to these proposals for reasons state in previous public testimony. Broadening the definition of assault weapon does nothing for public safety unless combined with a prohibition of possession...something a permanent registration scheme will facilitate. A high capacity magazine ban merely puts legitimate gun owners at the same disadvantage as police officers when facing an unknown assailant or home invader, except the gun owner lacks the bullet proof vest, radio, back-up, etc.

SB-506 Requiring NICS Check on all Transfers

Requiring a NICS check on all firearms transfers would substantially increase the inquiries to the DPS. Addressed to provide funding for expanded operation the State could implement this reasonably however, the State of CT has added a requirement that a form DPS-3C be completed for every handgun transfer. Where Federal Law prohibits the retention of firearms information (no permanent registry), CT has used the NICS system to permanently record all firearms where a NICS is completed. Adding all private sales of long guns to NICS would be less objectionable if the purpose of the NICS was to ONLY approve the individuals involved in the transfer and NOT to describe and permanently register the firearm.

Thank you for your time and consideration

Respectfully submitted,

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