

To the Legislators of Connecticut,

As a supporter of the second amendment, there are many bills that are being presented in the Connecticut Legislature. There are several that concern me, but four that have me severely worried in regards to the effects it may have on public safety and the rights deemed to United States citizens by our Constitution.

The first being bill number HB-5112: An Act Concerning the Disclosure of the Names and Addresses of Persons Holding Handgun Permits. I am opposed to this bill because I feel that this is a direct infringement on my right to privacy and could put my own safety at risk. If this bill is passed it will allow a blueprint to be printed for criminals to follow. Allowing any person to view the names and addresses of individuals with pistol permits would allow criminals to target those households knowing that it contains firearms for them to possibly acquire. It would make it easier for firearms to fall into the hands of criminals through theft.

The second being bill HB-5268: An Act Concerning the Maintenance of Liability Insurance by Firearms Owners and Establishing a Sales Tax on Ammunition. I am opposed to this bill because it concerns me that it increases the cost for an individual who legally owns a firearm and may cause individuals to forfeit their rights do to the elevated cost. Criminals who do not own firearms legally will not be the first in line to gain these insurance policies and will also turn to the black market for ammunition with the elevated sales taxes.

The third bill being SB-124: An Act Banning Large Capacity Ammunition Magazines. I am opposed to this bill because I don't feel that there is a specific capacity that is deemed safe for self-defense purposes. If an individual finds themselves in a situation with multiple offenders, they should be comfortable to know they have enough ammunition to protect themselves. According to the Uniformed Crime Report (UCR), compiled by the FBI, in 2011, of all murders, 1,746 were committed by multiple offenders. This represents 13.8% of all homicides. This does not account for all other violent crime that is committed by multiple offenders.

The fourth being SB-501: An Act Concerning the Ban on Assault Weapons. I oppose this bill for a variety of reasons. There is ample data found in the (UCR) that supports rifles as a class accounted for only 3.8% of all firearms related homicides in 2011. The assault weapons that are attempting to be banned only account for a small portion of that number. Also, the items suggested in the ban are merely cosmetic and do not allow for any real functionality of the firearm. We already have one of the strictest assault weapon bans in the country; I do not see the sense in making it any stricter than it already is.

Once again, I am strongly opposed to the above four bills. I would ask that all legislators take this into consideration and do not recommend any of them for passage. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

David Pabis
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