

Testimony to the Gun Violence Prevention Working Group

My name is Derek Hewitt of Vernon Connecticut.

I am writing to inform that I am in opposition to the bills being presented today January 28, 2013. These bills are as follows:

- HB-5112 AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISCLOSURE OF THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PERSONS HOLDING HANDGUN PERMITS.
- HB-5113 AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEFENSE OF A PERSON'S HOME, MOTOR VEHICLE OR BUSINESS.
- HB-5114 AN ACT CONCERNING THE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR A TEMPORARY STATE PERMIT TO CARRY A PISTOL OR REVOLVER.
- HB-5115 AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO THE INTERACTIVE VOICE RESPONSE SYSTEM OF THE SPECIAL LICENSING AND FIREARMS UNIT OF THE DIVISION OF STATE POLICE.
- HB-5116 AN ACT REQUIRING THE MAINTENANCE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE BY FIREARM OWNERS AND ESTABLISHING A SALES TAX ON AMMUNITION.
- HB-5117 AN ACT INCREASING THE PENALTY FOR CRIMINAL USE OF A FIREARM OR ELECTRONIC DEFENSE WEAPON.
- HB-5118 AN ACT REQUIRING GUN OWNERS TO CARRY LIABILITY INSURANCE.
- HB-5119 AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING FOR THE STATE-WIDE FIREARMS TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE.
- HB-5120 AN ACT CONCERNING HIGH CAPACITY FIREARMS.
- HB-5121 AN ACT CONCERNING THE PURCHASE OR POSSESSION OF AMMUNITION.
- HB-5122 AN ACT CONCERNING HOUSEHOLD ACCESS TO FIREARMS BY A PERSON WHO POSES A RISK OF IMMINENT PERSONAL INJURY TO HIMSELF OR OTHERS.
- HB-5123 AN ACT CONCERNING THE PENALTY FOR A CRIME COMMITTED WITH A FIREARM.
- HB-5124 AN ACT INCREASING THE MINIMUM PENALTY FOR ILLEGALLY SELLING OR POSSESSING A FIREARM.
- HB-5125 AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND OTHER INDIVIDUALS FROM VIOLENCE.
- HB-5126 AN ACT AUTHORIZING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR AN ETERNAL LIGHT IN MEMORY OF VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE.
- HB-5127 AN ACT CONCERNING THE CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF AMMUNITION.
- HB-5128 AN ACT CONCERNING RESTRICTIONS ON GUN USE.
- HB-5129 AN ACT BANNING LARGE CAPACITY AMMUNITION MAGAZINES.
- HB-5130 AN ACT CONCERNING LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR FIREARM OWNERS AND SALES TAX ON AMMUNITION.
- HB-5131 AN ACT CONCERNING THE REDUCTION OF GUN VIOLENCE.
- HB-5132 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A REGISTRY OF FIREARM-RELATED INJURIES AND DEATHS.
- HB-5133 AN ACT CONCERNING SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICIES REGARDING THE CARRYING OF FIREARMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.
- HB-5134 AN ACT PROVIDING FUNDING FOR THE STATE-WIDE FIREARMS TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE.
- HB-5135 AN ACT CONCERNING THE SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF PISTOL PERMITS.

HB-5136 AN ACT CONCERNING COMMISSION OF CERTAIN FELONIES WITH A FIREARM OR ASSAULT WEAPON.

HB-5137 AN ACT PROHIBITING THE AWARD OF RISK REDUCTION CREDIT TOWARD A REDUCTION IN SENTENCE FOR A CRIME COMMITTED WITH A FIREARM.

HB-5138 AN ACT CONCERNING THE BAN ON ASSAULT WEAPONS.

HB-5139 AN ACT CONCERNING LARGE CAPACITY GUN MAGAZINES.

HB-5140 AN ACT CONCERNING THE MINIMUM AGE REQUIREMENT TO PURCHASE A RIFLE.

HB-5141 AN ACT REQUIRING CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR ALL PRIVATE FIREARM SALES.

I'm a non-gun owning Connecticut citizen and see these proposed bills as an unsuitable remedy for preventing further gun violence in our state. I please ask that you do not pass the bills listed here. I understand fully that many people have been impacted by recent tragedies inflicted by the use of guns. But unfortunately the implementation of any of these bills would not have changed the outcomes of those days. The crimes would still have been just as possible even if every one of these bills were to be passed. Being a non-gun owner, I have been asked on quite a few occasions why I would be opposed to these bills. While I may not be a large gun advocate, I am and always have been a very strong believer in our constitution. The end of our 2nd amendment states "shall not be infringed," which is very straight forward. These bills may seem safer as immediate damage control, but the long term residual consequences can't be predicted.

I again please ask that you see past the media frenzy and look to uphold our constitutional values that have worked so well for us as a nation in the past. As a citizen I oppose these bills and request that you please do the same.

Thank you very much for your time and I understand you are very busy. Each moment you spent reading this is appreciated. If you have any questions, please do not delay in contacting me. I have also attached this email as a PDF file for ease of viewing and printing.

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