

1/28/2013

Bipartisan Task Force on Gun Violence Prevention and Children's Safety

Members of the Committee:

I write today to express my **opposition** to any and all legislation which would curtail the rights of Connecticut citizens to own and carry guns.

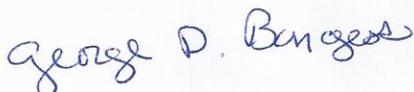
I am a 62-year-old man who is retired and disabled. I am a homeowner and a husband with a responsibility to protect myself, my wife, and my home. At all times, I am aware that my age and my disabilities have compromised my speed, strength, and agility and I am no longer the self-assured and confident citizen that I was when I was a younger man protecting a family of young children.

I carry a gun at all times. In my home and out in public, my gun is my means of self-protection and without it, I am vulnerable.

I have lived my life providing for my family, doing meaningful and productive work, trying to contribute to my community, and being a good citizen. I obey the laws and have raised my children to do so, too. I am not, however, naïve...I am aware that there are people in our community who do not obey the laws, and who do not respect or value the lives or property of others. I can't understand why anyone would expect me to be a sitting duck for those criminals by taking away my ability to protect myself from them.

Surely, I have earned the right to not be afraid.

Respectfully,



George D. Burgess

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