

To: State and Federal Legislators

Date: 1/30/2013

The U.S. Constitution 2nd Amendment should not be misinterpreted. Granted, there were not the type or style of weapon's available today, however the principles still apply. American citizens need equal or greater firearms to protect themselves and country against a foreign or domestic ground forces or armies. Ground forces have been the most successful asset in winning wars in any country.

This is a Federal issue (gun laws). All state laws should be modified or dismissed to conform to a universal system. This will eliminate black market interstate smuggling of firearms and ammo. Law enforcement will have easier guidelines for enforcement. Expenses to states will decrease. Current permit holders and those who have already been background checked will be grandfathered to new system and will not be required to submit to additional testing. Firearms will also be grandfathered.

All new firearms bought will be subject to background check, unless previously performed as case with permit holders. Current permit holders to be automatically issued new Federal firearms permit. Training of any type should include proper firearm storage. Increase penalty for noncompliance. Remove selected laws regarding "gun free" zones as these laws are targets for perpetrators.

Ammunition will be bought, sold, and transferred by providing proof of permit without additional hardship. Anyone buying ammo over a specific quantity is to provide written form for such – explaining reason. Training facilities exempt. Purchase quantity should also apply to certain firearms, specifically AR style. To use above argument of defending oneself against foreign or domestic threats as excuse for owning multiples of AR style rifles not valid since a person is only capable of firing one weapon at a time. Collectors or enthusiasts desiring multiple quantities of these weapons to have application stating reason. All rifle transactions to be documented.

Anyone breaking a firearm law pertaining to storage, use, transportation, etc. is subject to penalty and required to pass permit process to obtain said permit regardless of prior ownership of firearms unless permit is already held.

Any State not complying subject to treason and applicable laws.

Manufacturers and commerce involving firearms will benefit by making ownership in states with absurd current laws easier for compliant persons desiring such, possibly maintaining or increasing sales.

When comparing statistical information on crimes with other countries please be reminded, those who preach this information commonly have bias for either side. The important issue, when making these comparisons, is our government and country laws are based on OUR Constitution, not one of foreign origin. If statistics show the United States as not having the lowest crime statistics, so be it, even if we are not first in this category. Who is to say we have to be? At what cost – forfeiting the rights outlined in ANY of the Constitutional Amendments? Are there floods of immigrants trying to gain citizenship in those countries with lower statistical rates?

The parents and families of Sandy Hook lost a loved one in a tragic incident. I feel their pain, as I had a loss – not of one – but two loved ones in an incident. Years ago, my brother had developed psychological problems after a traumatic vehicle accident while attending college. Our family

sought many types of treatment and help for him between the early 1980s and 2005. I have been a licensed firearm permit holder and user of guns since the 1970's. My weapons have also been stored only for my access, even during period when I was still living with my family and brother. On New Year's Eve of 2005, while visiting my mom, my brother attacked both of us while cornered in a room of the house. I had a firearm but chose to fight him off even as he had a knife. He was subdued by me, but not before penetrating the knife into my mother's arm. Unfortunately my mother died as a result of a cut artery and resulting blood loss. Her religious beliefs disproved of blood transfusions, even though she was still alive at the hospital.

My family could not supervise my brother 24/7 for all of those years. They were not financially able to keep him committed. Now he is in a institute for the criminally insane. More help for ill people are needed. If Mrs. Lanza had secured her own firearms, her son may well have killed anyway but not with her weapons.

I had also sent a brief outline regarding school security to Washington and our state (CT) but not received any acknowledgement of such. This outline covers simple, non-lethal protection of schools and can be implemented without much difficulty.

I can appreciate the effort and patience of our leaders in finding comparable solutions to the ones above. I believe these suggestions represent opinion on all sides. As a victim of violent crime, firearms enthusiast, business owner, and believer in our Government - feel I can contribute my thoughts objectively.

Thank you for your service –

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