

To: The Co-Chairmen and distinguished members of the Gun Violence Prevention Working Group of the Connecticut Bipartisan Task Force on Gun Violence Prevention and Children's Safety.

I have heard rumors that the Task Force is considering bypassing separate committee hearings and taking some type of gun legislation directly to the House and Senate via something called emergency certification.

I sincerely hope this is not true. New York followed a similar, rushed legislative route which resulted in what is reported to be deeply flawed legislation. It was reported that New York legislators were not even given time to read and understand the legislation before the vote. I am still amazed that an elected legislator would vote to pass legislation that they have not read and do not understand, and I hope Connecticut does not go down this path.

Dan Haar, in the Hartford Courant, had an excellent article recently about the hearings. He made an important point that what we need most right now when considering gun legislation is patience. It seems that at least some parties want to rush the process because they fear that if legislators and the public have time to critically review the proposals, instead of acting on emotions, they will not get the results they desire. If that is true, then perhaps the proposals do need more scrutiny before poor laws are passed like New York.

Thank you for your consideration.

John Kornegay, Ph.D.
CAPT, USNR(ret)
Barkhamsted