

Please forward the text below to the gun violence task force.

26 January 2013

Dear Honorable Committee Members,

I am writing to again testify regarding suggestions and proposals which have been made to prevent future instances of gun violence here in Connecticut. Specifically, in this written testimony, I am writing to oppose any proposal to prevent or restrict the ability of Connecticut residents to obtain ammunition, including by mail-order/catalog/internet sale, from sources outside of the state of Connecticut. Mail-order/catalog/internet ammunition vendors provide Connecticut sport shooters with an economical means of obtaining ammunition for calibers which may be obsolete or difficult to obtain locally. Due to economic concerns associated with operating a profitable business, many businesses do not carry all loads offered in given calibers, specialty, particularly high-end, ammunition used in competition shooting, and calibers that are obsolete or not frequently used.

The ability to purchase ammunition from interstate sources does not significantly impact public safety. Even in the most tragic incidents, the quantities of ammunition used do not represent quantities which would not have been easily obtained in local transactions, nor would the amounts acquired appear atypical for active sport shooters.

In the past, there were stringent federal laws regulating the sale of ammunition across state lines, requiring federal licensure to sell ammunition, and requiring record keeping. Those laws were so ineffective that they were reduced to current laws with the passage of the Firearms Owners Protection Act over a quarter century ago.

Sincerely,

Joseph D.
New Britain, CT