

I regret recent scheduling conflicts with my employer will prevent me to attend the hearing in person.

I am a member of the NRA, and of the ACLU, and believe that reasonable people, working in good faith together, can get past tired rhetoric and come to agreements that balance freedom with responsibility.

Governor Malloy last week correctly stated<sup>[1]</sup> that other states were, through defunding and egregiously burdensome regulation, denying women the right to control their own bodies and futures.

I ask that this General Assembly does not, through punitive taxation and egregiously burdensome regulation deny the civil rights of its citizens to bear arms in self-defense or to pursue happiness in their sporting activities.

Connecticut has a heritage of gun technology, sportsmanship, and unfortunately not only the Sandy Hook shooting but also the Cheshire home invasion – and we have an opportunity to find a balanced approach to public safety, sporting, and self-defense issues.

I hope I will be able to attend future committee hearings as these issues are discussed and I am available to discuss issues with legislators and their staff.

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Specific Points:

- Most features of modern designs of semi-automatic rifles do not increase their lethality in “mass shooter” events.
  - Pistol grips do not make a rifle more deadly.
  - The ability to quickly change magazines is the most deadly feature in mass shootings done with semi-automatic rifles.

- Takes a proficient person about 4 seconds to change currently.
- Detachable magazines provide for more practice in limited positions and operating hours of firing ranges.
- They increase safety by providing positive visual evidence the gun is unloaded (along with an opened bolt).
- I would ask the gun industry if there is a way to develop mechanical controls that would take an average, trained user at least 15 seconds to change magazines.
- In a hypothetical situation of a shooter active for 2-1/2 minutes, my proposal would reduce the time the shooter could be firing by over 30% while providing opportunities long enough to fight back against an attacker.

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Capacity	Magazines	Total Rounds	Time to change a magazine	Time spent changing magazines
10	10	100	4	40 seconds
20	5	100	15	75 seconds

- I support near universal -- but not mandatory -- background checks for gun purchases.
  - To allow transfers to very well knowing individuals (close friends/family)
  - If a background check would have shown the receiver to be ineligible, criminally sanction the seller/gifter.
- I support standard capacity pistol magazines
  - Magazines where no bullets are stored below the bottom of the handgrip.
  - Pistols, when used for self-defense, are less powerful and less accurate the rifles; more rounds are reasonable even if rifle magazine capacity is restricted.
  - I do not mind restrictions on "extended capacity" magazines
- I support evaluations of gun storage practices when dangerous or unfit individuals share a household with a firearms owner.
  - These rightfully should impose a higher standard on the owner.
- I believe our current pistol permit procedures are good and sufficient
  - Proposals to shorten the length of permits, etc. represent egregious regulations designed to suppress civil rights.
- I do not support taxes on ammunition or insurance requirements
  - These are the types of financial hardships designed to suppress civil rights that Governor Malloy correctly recognizes in the political battles over abortion.
- No matter how hard tight gun laws are made, there will always be tragedies.

- Cumbria, Scotland shooting in 2010
  - 12 Killed
  - 11 Injured
  - Weapons?
    - One shotgun with a capacity of two rounds
    - One rifle with a capacity of a single .22 long rifle round
      - A round normally used for rabbits and such.

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[1] <http://www.norwichbulletin.com/news/x2105873962/Abortion-influences-from-other-states-worrying#axzz2Iv4S7yQY>