

January 28, 2013

To: Sen. Martin Looney, Co-chair and Rep. Craig Miner, Co-chair of the Connecticut Gun Violence group

From: Matthew Woods, Connecticut Resident

I am opposed to the new Connecticut Gun Legislation that is being proposed in Connecticut. The data, based upon FBI Federal statistics, does not support the current political rhetoric. Less than 2% of all gun violence is caused the "assault rifle" and that more people are killed each year by hammers and blunt objects than guns. Furthermore, alcohol related deaths and deaths from malpractice far exceed the two aforementioned categories. More gun laws and restricting the rights of law-abiding citizens is not the answer. Criminals do not follow the law.

What is the problem we are trying to solve? Again, the federal data does not support the current political rhetoric that is occurring in Connecticut and nationwide regarding firearms and proposed gun legislation. There are measures that can be taken today to increase the safety of our schools ranging from School Resource Officers to barriers to non-glass doors. Adding additional law enforcement as well as enforcing current and existing laws will do more to deter crime than any of the new proposed legislation. We know that criminals and those intent on doing harm do not follow the law so why focus on issues that will have little impact to those areas as well as may take away critical funding from other programs the state needs in order to pay for the new legislative actions.

The new proposed Connecticut Gun Legislation infringes upon law-abiding citizens rights and impacts multiple Connecticut based Firearms companies as well may lead to loss of Connecticut jobs in these tight economic times. Let's focus on improving school safety, enforcing existing laws, decreasing crime, and increasing efforts to improve the economy, jobs, and strengthening our state's programs.

In summary, I am opposed to the new Connecticut Gun Legislation that is being proposed in Connecticut. Please consider all the facts and data and oppose the new Connecticut Gun Legislation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Thanks,
Matthew Woods
Connecticut Resident

Sent from my iPhone