

The current debate on gun legislation is disappointing. Connecticut currently has laws that regulate handguns and long guns, the development of more laws will only infringe on the rights of law abiding citizens of Connecticut. Connecticut residents should not be subject to bans on the amount of ammunition that a weapon can have in its magazine, it only serves to give criminals an advantage in any confrontation that a law abiding mother, father, sister, brother, or for that matter teacher may have. What is being lost in this hype to do something after the Newtown shooting is that many Connecticut and American citizens carry guns to protect themselves, their families, and fellow citizens. As law makers you must ask yourself "If I'm charged with protecting my family, myself, or my fellow citizen will I take that responsibility and how many rounds of ammunition do I need?" in a stressful confrontation when life is at risk things don't happen like the movies, violent criminals don't die quickly, they don't wait for a mother protecting her children to reload and they don't attack in predictable numbers. As we are told to prepare for snow storms, power outages and other natural disasters we should also be allowed to prepare for protecting our loved ones if we choose to and not limited by type of weapon and amount of ammunition.

The weapons that are being targeted as being military style with no sporting use are in fact often used for hunting and shooting. The .223/5.56 round is an effective varmint choice and the AR style platform the most versatile. In many areas they are used to take anything from groundhogs to wild bore. I can't believe that educated public officials have actually grandstanded about how deadly the AR platform and .223/5.56 round are, they are a gun and bullet! Guns and bullets were designed to kill things and it just comes across as stupid to hear a public official grandstand about their level of "deadly"!

It has also been proposed to tax ammunition and require background checks to purchase it. As a law abiding citizen I am insulted by both of these proposals to discriminate against me.

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed. Don't let the fallen children and brave teachers of Newtown Connecticut be remembered as the reason the people's rights were infringed on and the security of a free state taken away. Enforce the laws we have, give help to those who need it, and respect the memory of all those that died in the protection of this Country and its Constitution.

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