

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to you in regards to the legislation being proposed which inhibits the law abiding citizen in their pursuit for safety. I would like to inform you that a mere 5 years ago I may be writing from the other side of the fence. There was a time when I believed firearms were inherently dangerous and yielded nothing but trouble, my education on the subject was incredibly un-developed and immature. In the past few years I have come to find that to be farthest from the truth. A firearm is an inanimate object, no more or less dangerous than a vehicle or a book of matches. To outlaw a weapon based on type, capabilities or what-have-you, is no different than saying a citizen does not need a vehicle capable of exceeding 65m.p.h. or holding more than 10 gallons of gas. What would they need it for, what is the point?

Most of me simply wants to say to you, "Shall not be infringed", simple enough. But I understand full well the topic at hand is far more complex than this. Something needs to be done to prevent gun violence, that is no secret. But stripping the law abiding citizen of their best means of defense is not a step in the right direction. It is blatantly apparent, a criminal does not abide by legislation or law. Passing magazine capacity restrictions, bans of firearms by type or manufacturer, or restricting their ability to carry is not just un-Constitutional, its criminal in itself and hands the nation to the most evil of doers. In actuality, such legislation only serves to make "criminals" out of law abiding people.

There is ample factual information to be found, which proves without doubt, firearms (or even just the idea of one being present) drastically reduces crime. Im not going to sit here and reiterate what you must (or at least I hope you) already know. It is your position, your duty to the free citizens of this United States, to do what is in our best interest. It is clear, if one can approach this topic without bias or preconceived notion, armed citizens are a win for the nation as a whole. And not just on homegrown level, on a worldwide basis. It is argued who said it, General Patton or Yamamoto, that, "An invasion of the American mainland would be impossible, there would be a rifle behind every blade of grass". The fact that I and men like me own rifles may be the very reason the Japanese attacked a military base in the middle of the Pacific Ocean instead of a city on the west coast.

It would be my best suggestion to take a look at Enfield CT's permitting process, it is the very permitting process I went though myself. From what I have come to understand it is one of the most difficult to achieve in the state, and may make a good model. It was not ridiculously expensive or even incredibly difficult, but rather it was immensely involved. It required interviews with detectives, phone calls to family and loved ones, investigation of my history, training classes etc. While I must admit I found it irritating, the hoops I had to jump though, I found solace in knowing they didn't just hand the things out to anybody, it was a test you HAD to pass.

Another honest suggestion would be; I believe when an unlicensed individual tries to purchase a rifle or shotgun, that they must endure a waiting period with a maximum of 7 days. If the application is not reached in the 7 days it is granted a pass regardless of the applicant or application. This is a serious loophole, a felon can "legitimately" (and I say legitimately, not legally) purchase a firearm if he knows the system is backed up at the time. As on day 7, when he application is not reviewed it automatically passes through. One of two things needs to happen here, the 7 days needs to be extended, which I disagree with, or the agency responsible needs to pick up their slack.

In any event, my firearms, whatever they may be, bring me and my family comfort and security, and guarantee our freedom. It would be genuinely appreciated if my rights were not infringed on anymore

so than they already are. It would be genuinely appreciated if the safety and security of my family were not infringed on anymore than they already are. Banning types or limiting round counts only serves to put me at a massive disadvantage to the criminal. When he breaks through my door he is going to have as many rounds loaded into his firearm as he possibly (not legally) can, and I'm only going to have 10 or less? That is not the America I want to live in. That is not the America thousands have died to defend.

You men and women have some very difficult decisions to make in the near future. My thoughts and prayers are with you, I hope your thoughts are with our rights, our safety, our families.

Sincerely,
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