

Bipartisan Task Force On Gun Violence Prevention And Children's Safety

Gun Violence Prevention Working Group
Public Hearing Testimony January 28, 2013

Dear Committee Members,

My name is Patrick O'Brien Jr.,

Although I am unable to attend the public hearing I am sending in my written testimony.

I am a life long Connecticut resident, law abiding citizen, and responsible firearm owner.

I am urging you to **OPPOSE** any proposed bills that are further restricting any gun laws. Last year we fought over banning magazines with capacity over 10 rounds and it did not pass, yet a year later we are fighting for the same things. These proposed bills, one of which will also expand the definition of MOST semi-automatic rifles to "assault weapons" merely on features, will do NOTHING to curb any violence, or prevent any heinous crimes from occurring. These are merely cosmetic features that do not change the way the firearm functions, or changes the lethality. These people that commit these acts are criminals and DO NOT obey any laws. The only people these bills would affect are in fact the law abiding citizens.

Furthermore, the majority of these proposed bills will be a great financial burden on gun owners that will need to replace any magazine over 10 rounds, also the need to acquire permits for ammo purchase or any rifle with a pistol grip would also sink us financially (I could only assume "permits" would have some monetary cost). In this economic time it is plain to see this importance. Also, restricting online ammo purchases would also be a financial burden as well. Just as buying supplies or clothing online, there is a cost benefit that is very important to us that are not as financially well off as some.

There have been no data to prove that any of these said restrictions will have any impact. There have been states and previous Federal Assault weapons ban that expired in 2004 that have had no meaningful impact. Take a look at Chicago or Washington D.C. which until recently had super restrictive policies on all firearms within the city limits but had the worse murder and crime rates. Any of these restrictive proposals, will only empower the criminals, by decreasing the law abiding citizens ability to protect them.

Lastly these proposed bills directly infringes on our 2nd Amendment rights laid forth in the Constitution.

Thank you for your time to hear me on these matters.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. O'Brien Jr.

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