

Testimony for Gun Violence Public Hearing

My name is Robert Lennon. I live at 151 Pierce Blvd Windsor, CT. I am a lawful gun owner. I am also a husband, a father and grandfather and veteran of the US Navy. I am not a political activist. In fact, this is the first time I submit testimony for a public hearing. I do so because I am very worried about some of the bills recently introduced.

I am a property insurance adjuster. My duties include a physical inspection of damaged homes. Since the housing crash, many of the homes I inspect are foreclosed properties. The great majority of these buildings have been vacant for months if not years. Utilities are off. There is no power, and windows are boarded. Hence, the buildings are a heaven for drug addicts, gangs, the homeless and squatters. When I go into one of these properties, I never know what or whom I may find. While 911 is program in my smart phone, if "the bad guys" confront me my lifeline is my weapon.

I understand that as parents, grandparents and responsible leaders you feel compelled to take some action. On the other hand, many of the bills before you will not prevent the next massacre.

Limiting the number of bullets in a magazine/clip:

How will you enforce it? Are you going to confiscate property? Are you going to enter the homes of law-abiding citizens, or stop them on the street without probable cause? We both know the answer is no. Hence, there is no way to know how many bullets in a clip until after the next shooting and the blood of the innocent is flowing down the hallway.

Calling for a 50% tax on weapons and ammunition:

It would impose a heavy burden on the law abiding. On people like me, who need the protection that comes with legally carrying a firearm so at the end of the day we get to go home?

Banning Certain Weapons:

The most dangerous place in our country is the City of Chicago. The most austere gun policy exists in the City of Chicago. Need I say more?

Gun violence is on the rise. Sandy Hook was horrible. I agree that reform is necessary. However, the root of the problem is not the law abiding. Limiting us via bans and financial burdens will not fix the problem. In fact, it might make it worse. I know you want to do the right thing and, we your constituents expect you to tackle the tough issues.

Thank You.