

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Gun Control Working Group:

My name is Scott Kasper, and I reside in Killingworth. I am a husband, father, mechanical engineer, member of the local Lion's Club, a registered voter and law-abiding firearms owner.

I write to submit testimony and **OPPOSE** any and all of the "*Common Sense Gun Safety*" bills that are currently being considered by the Connecticut General Assembly.

These proposed bills are not "*Common Sense*." These are the same misguided and uninformed proposals that have been raised over and over again in Connecticut, across the nation and in Washington D.C. for years. None of these suggestions have ever proven to be effective at reducing violent crime, and they would serve as nothing more than a costly inconvenience for law-abiding firearms owners.

These bills also aren't even about "*Gun Safety*". They are about **GUN CONTROL** plain and simple. It's an insult to our intelligence, and, quite frankly, we're all (as in the 65+ Million law-abiding firearms owners in the USA) tired of the rhetoric.

In Connecticut we already have a law prohibiting so-called "assault weapons." That law did nothing to protect the children at Sandy Hook Elementary School. In Connecticut, we also have a law requiring background checks on all firearms sales and transfers (referred to as the gun show "loophole" on the national stage). That law did nothing to protect those children. You cannot create legislation at any level that can predict the illegal actions of a mentally ill person.

Criminals, by the very definition of the word, do not obey laws. Creating additional gun laws will only have a negative affect on law abiding citizens and their ability to defend themselves, their families and their property as well as limiting their recreational pursuits.

I implore you instead to work at improving the State's mental health system which has been reduced to non-existent over the past 40 years, invest in appropriate measures to significantly improve security in all our public schools and provide the resources to our Law Enforcement Officers to enforce the existing laws. Additionally I request that you prosecute offenders of firearms laws to their fullest extent and cease plea bargaining with criminals.

In closing, I will re-iterate that I **OPPOSE** any and all gun control bills, that I vote, and that your votes on this issue will affect all of my future voting decisions here in Connecticut as well as at the Federal level. I urge you to oppose any and all gun control bills as well and to ensure you focus on those solutions that will actually achieve positive results.

Thank you for your time and consideration.