

I ask you to oppose the following Bills:

These Bills will do nothing to make the citizens of Connecticut any safer! Enforce the laws we have in place!

HB-5112 Are you trying to make us targets for home invasions? Will you people accept any responsibility if harm comes to my family just because I have a pistol permit? Do not make my family the target of a home invasion!

HB-5268- Taxing ammunition will not prevent violence! It will only increase the price of an already scarce resource. If the price of ammunition increases for citizens it will surely increase for police departments! Will criminals be required to carry liability insurance?

HB-5268 There already laws that cover this! What good will another law do?

HB-5442 Will criminals be required to carry insurance or will they be able to sue the lawful gun owners after they have stolen our guns.

HB-5647 Will not prevent violent crimes

HB-5651 Federal laws cover this, enforce those laws!

HB-5656 We already have laws that cover this!

HB-5676 Enforce the laws we already have that cover this!

SB-1 Enforce the laws on the books

SB-42 Enforce the laws we have!

SB-501 We already have an assault weapons ban!

SB-504 Will not prevent gun violence

Dear Sirs

I must ask you, are you prepared to make me a felon because I possess a magazine that holds eleven rounds of ammunition? Connecticut already has some of the most stringent gun control laws in the country. Connecticut is rated by the Brady group as being in the top five states with the toughest gun control laws. Many of today's modern firearms do not have magazines that will satisfy the law as proposed today. If this law passes as it is written, most if not all of Connecticut's gun owners will become instant felons. How is that possible when we have committed no crime? The only law we will have broken is that we own a firearm magazine that holds eleven rounds. One does not even need to own a firearm; the mere possession of a magazine that holds eleven rounds of ammunition is all that it will take to become a felon. Why are you seeking to punish us? As a result of the hysteria, every store that sells firearms and ammunition is basically out of inventory, not just in Connecticut but all across America. Why, because American citizens are afraid of what lawmakers are trying to do. There is an agenda and we do not support it. Federal and state legislatures are dividing our state and country farther apart by seeking to demonize gun owners because we disagree with your solutions. This law will create a black market.

If these Bills become law, is Connecticut financially ready for the lawsuits that may result? The state is \$420 million dollars in debt, shouldn't our legislature and governor focus on

that problem rather than trying to make over 100,000 law abiding gun owners instant felons? Is the state trying to drive out lawful business such as Colt, Ruger and many others? Quite a few of these manufacturers have said they would leave the state if this law is passed? Can we afford the loss of industry and tax revenue? **We are prepared to fight this and exhaust every legal option.**

Most if not all of the top law enforcement officials have concluded that no law would have or could have prevented what happened in Newtown. The only thing that may have made a difference in the outcome that day would have been to have armed security or police there to protect our children. Why are our legislature and Representatives so opposed to the idea of having a police officer or armed security at our schools? As a teacher, I am all in favor of having either armed security or a police officer at school. Five minutes is too long to wait in a time of crisis. We need a good guy on duty to protect us from the bad guys. The only reason I feel safe while on the job is because my school has a police substation across the street. Lockdowns do very little to protect our children and teachers. In effect, a lockdown becomes a deadly game of hide and seek. **We hide and hope that help gets there fast enough.**

What we need are stronger mental health services where people in need can go and receive help. We need more effective interventions, counseling and treatment services. We can no longer say it's too expensive. We need to treat the illness and not the symptoms of illness.

The laws that are being talked about today will do nothing but punish law abiding citizens. **The FBI and Department of Justice study concluded that the assault weapons ban from 1994 to 2004 had no impact on violent crime or firearms usage in the commission of a violent crime.** These laws will result in legal challenges that may end up costing the state financially. I urge you all to work with Connecticut's pro firearms groups and come up with a better solution. Irrational and reactionary legislation that has been hastily written, not thought out or debated will do little to decrease gun violence. Criminals and those intent on doing evil will not stop simply because you passed another "feel good" law. "One of the greatest delusions to the world is the hope that the evils of this world will be cured through legislation"

Thank you

Stephen Reisinger

Fairfield, Connecticut