

Hello to members of the Gun Violence Task Force subgroup,

With all due respect, I am submitting this as Public Hearing Testimony for Gun Violence:

I am asking that each Representative or Senator in this subgroup personally, read this correspondence in its entirety

I am going to try to keep this as simple as I can. I could list hundreds slogans, facts and stats on the issue of gun controls to justify my feelings or our rights granted by the 2nd amendment and our state constitution, as I see them.

HB 5268, SB140 To require firearm owners to maintain liability insurance and establish a sales tax on the sale of ammunition at a rate of 50 percent and require all ammunition to be purchased in person.

For a starter this law may start a new culture in Connecticut, by compelling honest gun owners who cannot afford insurance to hide the existence their guns. Now the tax on ammunition would mean shooters would buy ammunition out of state and/or this law would foster a black market. How much revenue would the state loose?

SB 122 A class C felony offense for any person or organization to purchase, sell, donate, transport, possess, or use any gun except one made to fire a single round.

I called this a harebrained idea the first time I heard this and I have not changed my mind.

To start, there are many shooting sports that require numerous rounds, Skeet, Trap, Sporting Clays, Action Pistol matches, Tactical Pistol, Tactical Shotgun, Tactical Rifle, Cowboy Lever Action Rifle Competition, Cowboy Mounted Shooting, etc.

So this means that if you live in Connecticut you have buy your firearms out of state, store your firearms out of state, practice your sport out of state, all competitions will have to be out of state? You are denying good the citizens of Connecticut the ability to enjoy sports that involve firearms.

SB 124 Prohibit the possession of magazines that accept more than ten rounds.

This is really a good one. If this is the only one of these three bills to pass, maybe just maybe the fear of big brother will convince gun owners to turn in their mags. Now here's the kicker, the people you REALLY have to worry about, the criminals, the confused and the mentally disturbed, they are NOT going to give you their magazines!

So what have you accomplished?

I cannot understand why the legislature would believe that prohibiting all guns except those made to fire only a single round, restricting the capacity of magazines, taxing ammo, and forcing people, who have done nothing wrong, and to be forced to buy insurance is a common sense approach to stop mass murders. Can you not see the problems are not with the tools, firearms, magazines, and ammunition? The problem is with social misfits that are unstable. The legislature is looking to penalized good citizens who enjoy the shooting sports, to satisfy voters, whose lack of understanding of the real problem are crying for "Gun Control".

There are an estimated eighty million respectable responsible gun owners in our country, both men and women, who have firearms to protect their person, their families, their homes, and businesses who are now concerned about the freedom to enjoy their sports because of a minuscule number of deranged murderers.

Consider this, including Columbine in 1999, in the last 15 years there have been about 36 incidents that are considered mass shootings! These shootings are not to be trivialized, but out of about 80 million gun owners only 37 shooters were considered mass murderers.

The problems we have with these horrific shootings are NOT about guns, it is about disturbed people who do not fit in civilized society.

Please do not move forward on these proposed bills.

Thank you,
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