

Dear Representative/Senator,

I'm writing to express my sincere opposition to the following proposed gun bills as well as any others which infringe on our Constitutional rights to bear arms to protect our families, businesses, to hunt and otherwise enjoy the shooting sports.

HB-5112: Disclosure of names and addresses of honest citizens who possess handgun permits. Handgun. This is a gross violation of privacy and serves to ostracize handgun owners. A most horrible bill.

HB-5268 and SB-140: Bills to require liability insurance for gun owners. Also to require sales tax on ammunition. The insurance is required to pay for the victims of gun. Bull-crap proposal. Honest gun owners to pay for the results of criminal acts? Make the criminals pay with stiffer penalties. Why punish gun owners? The latter is the major objective of current gun proposals. We already pay a sales tax on ammunition and in addition contribute to the federally mandated Pittman-Robinson act for conservation. Remember the results of the unjust tax on tea?

HB-122: A horrible proposal which restricts firearms to only fire one round. This bill is an example of a legislator who has only limited knowledge of the reality of firearms usage in Connecticut and unfortunately is taking advantage of Sandy Hook for political gain. We have tens of thousands of hunters in our state who go afield with guns which by necessity hold more than one round. On any given weekend we have hundreds of individuals who participate in the shooting sports such as sporting clays, skeet and doubles trap, combat pistol shoots, and military rifle events. All of these require weapons to fire more than one shot.

Additionally I strongly oppose bills **SB-1, SB-42, SB-124, and SB-161.**

I do support the following proposed bills: **HB-5165, HB-5176, HB-5179, HB-5269, HB-5377, HB-5466, and HB-5468.**

I do pray that you will read this letter and commit to a decision that will uphold the second amendment and that will not infringe upon our right to bear arms.

Remember that after the horror of the Southington home invasion many citizens purchased firearms to protect themselves and their families, and they found comfort in the possession of same. Since then Connecticut has eliminated the death penalty. Now a violent felon can use a gun to commit murder and not fear the penalty of death. **Reinstate the death penalty. This will most assuredly reduce gun violence** The major push to reduce gun violence is to punish the good, law-abiding citizens and infringe upon our rights.

We have numerous robberies with criminals using guns and have even witnessed brutal executions. Clearly these types of crimes would be greatly limited if criminals had to fear armed owners, including home owners.

There is no sure way to eliminate violence in our society. Most of the violent gun crimes are committed with illegal guns and are the result of turf wars over drug sales and other gang-related issues. Stricter enforcement of our laws is required. The violence and gore on TV (criminal minds, various CSI's), and movies (hunger games), and video games has desensitized our population towards violence. Our society's loss of moral values, acceptance of

drug use, and the downgrading of religion have all contributed to the crime and violence. Most mentally ill people are on the streets are maintained on drugs (antidepressants). Additional gun laws are not needed. The large majority of mass murders have been perpetrated by very mentally disturbed people. We can't expect to violate the physician-patient confidentiality but we can educate our population to report these individuals to the proper authorities for help.

I would also like to comment on the so-called "assault rifles". The civilian rifles fire in a semi-automatic mode and are no different than the accepted semi-automatic rifles. They just look different and this is what scares non-gun owners. These are just contemporary rifles which feature a pistol grip. This feature is very desirable when confronting a home invader. You don't have time to carefully aim (especially in poor light), but rather have to shoot fast and from the hip. The pistol grip just facilitates this. The use of these rifles actually greatly reduces the number of rifles needed as they are modular in design. This means an owner, instead of having 3-4 rifles needs only one, because barrels can be simply changed for the proper use (target, small game hunting, big game hunting, and just plinking). We must have access to the best rifles and shotguns available for self defence)

Personally I would like to close with another reason as to why gun owners are so concerned with proposed restraining regulations, namely our Federal Government. As you may know in order to pursue their current anti-gun agenda they (at the very highest levels) permitted the shipment of over two thousand illegal guns to Mexico. This act resulted in the deaths of hundreds of Mexicans and at least one American. Our attorney general refused to cooperate with congress and was bailed out by our president claiming executive privilege. Before Sandy Hook our attorney general met in New Haven with our governor to discuss gun violence. This just places doubts in the minds of gun owners as to the respect our leaders have for our Constitution and the Second Amendment.

By far the hunters of America comprise the largest standing army in the world and we are sincere in the love of our Nation and Constitution. Thank you.

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