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This is my testimonial document regarding a safer Connecticut. I give a full 100% support for security and safety at our schools. The gun bill proposals being considered have nothing to do with the crimes in CT. Law abiding legal gun owners are not responsible for any crimes, but criminals are. A recent national report shows that 326 school children were killed in the last 10 years and in 2011 approximately 32,000 people died in automobile accidents. Guns don't kill people, cars don't kill people, bad people kill people. Shooting at ranges and in competition matches and hunting are very popular and safe hobbies. Personally and legally owning a firearm is a huge and safe personal protection. There have been six instances in my life where the display of my firearm saved me and/or my family. I totally support our right to keep and bear firearms. All these proposed gun rules and restriction will do nothing to eliminate all the current crimes, but are only punishing law abiding legal gun owners instead of the criminals who do commit the crimes and killings. One of our current solutions would be to enforce full imprisonment for crimes and not just slap them on their wrist and let them walk out, and if found guilty of 1st degree murder, death row and not a life of full room, board, health and food. The biggest killer in the USA is tobacco, but it is allowed to be sold and causes so much health issues!

I am against the following proposals:

- An outright ban on ALL modern sporting rifles classifying them as "Assault Weapons."
- Restricting your ability to defend yourself and family by arbitrarily restricting the magazine size to 10 rounds.
- Confiscating ALL magazines holding more than 10 rounds, pistols included.
- Statewide gun registration for ALL firearms; knowing full well criminals won't ever register their guns.
- Re-registration every 2 years with ever increasing fees.
- Requires permit for any rifle with a pistol grip.
- Limiting how much ammunition you can purchase AND possess.
- Registration of all ammunition purchases.
- Bans internet sales of ammo in Connecticut.
- Mandatory gun storage laws, like the one the U.S. Supreme Court struck down in the Heller decision.

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.

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.

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

Once again, these proposals do nothing to prevent crime but only punish law abiding legal gun owners. Should these proposals get passed, expect lots of residents to leave CT for a better state and CT will see a big financial loss with them gone also. Thank you for the opportunity to present my views on this.

Willard R. Shine

