

Honorable Committee,

I am a law-abiding citizen and soon to be responsible gun owner, residing in Torrington, Connecticut.

While I am still shocked @ the slaughter in Newtown, I do not think tighter gun laws are the answer. CT has some of the tightest laws in the nation and they did not make a bit of difference to a obviously mentally deranged young man. I feel THAT is where one of the problems lies, is with the mental health system

I do NOT support a stricter assault weapon ban, a high capacity magazine ban, a maximum of one bullet ban or any of the other knee jerk/feel good reactionary "ideas". Instead of punishing law abiding citizens I suggest having stricter punishment for violent crimes, more funding to get illegal guns off the street, increased funding for police, and looking at mental health. Those are just some of my general ideas and please feel free to use them.

Per info retrieved from OLR report number 2007-R-0442, entitled Case Statistics for Firearm Violations for the years 2001-2007. A total of 26,725 people were arrested for firearm violations between 2001 and 2007 – 71% were not prosecuted. Perhaps enforcing existing laws would be a good place to start?

Please oppose all legislation that restricts the liberty of law-abiding gun owners. I am a CT resident, I vote, and I ask that you listen to your constituents.

Thank you,
Chris Brancato
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