

PA12-191

SB0196

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**JOINT
STANDING
COMMITTEE
HEARINGS**

**PUBLIC
SAFETY AND
SECURITY
PART 1
1 – 317**

**2012
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Very simply, the Board of Firearms permit examiners ruled in 2009 that the information to file for a pistol permit, anything above that is not required by state statute and we want to reinforce that position. So that is the bulk of my testimony as far as I have no position right now, our organization has no position on S.B. 64 or H.B. 5096. Again I hope that this committee will help this bill move forward with the amended suggestions by Representative Sampson and myself to -- to help further this bill along. Any questions?

REP. DARGAN: Thank you very much, Scott. Questions from any committee members? Hearing none, thank you very much.

SCOTT WILSON: Thank you.

REP. DARGAN: Next presenter is Chief Salvatore and Chief Reed.

MATTHEW REED: Good afternoon, members of the committee. My name is Matthew Reed, I'm Chief of Police with the Sound Windsor Police Department. I am Legislative Co-Chair for the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association. My colleague, Chief Salvatore, was called to court and had to leave. I'm on the last legs of my voice as this cold continues to batter me, so I will be brief in my comments. We have submitted written testimony concerning our support of Senate Bill 195, AN ACT CONCERNING THE STORAGE OF STOLEN PROPERTY. We support this in that the value of the property that local police departments are required to catalog and keep in their local property room should be raised to \$1,000. We support that.

HB 294
SB 249

Regarding Senate Bill 196, the recording of

pistol and revolver sales in a bound book, we do support this. However, according to the language of the recommended statute is only the Commissioner of the Department of Emergency -- DESPP, who can inspect that book. We as the municipal police chiefs are the ones who issue those permits to sell pistols and revolvers at retail, so we believe we should also be able to look at that book.

We also support House Bill 5294, AN ACT CONCERNING THE LATERAL CERTIFICATION OF POLICE OFFICERS. We support that language. You should know that POST is also working parallel to this in amending their regulations to allow for the transfer without requiring the physical fitness requirements be met for certification. Our one concern is this, as an employer, the municipality should still be able to test respective applicants and have them meet whatever standards the town feels that they should meet.

We as employers would hate to see the applicant come to us, use this proposed change as a sword against the municipality to say no, no, no, I don't have to meet any physical fitness requirements. As employers, we want them to meet the physical fitness requirement, or at least in my community I do, and I know there are other chiefs who feel the same way. However, we don't feel that their certification needs to be predicated on the meeting of that standard at the POST level.

As far as Senate Bill 249 goes, dismissal of the deputy chief, we're not sure the genesis of that. However, I've had several chiefs call me in opposition to that because there are some chiefs who have the authority to hire and fire their number two and they want to retain that

JUDY ARON: Good afternoon, committee members who are here. Thank you all so much for all the work you do for public safety in Connecticut, we really appreciate it, I do anyway as a citizen here. I'm here today to support the four bills, S.B. 196, which is AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECORDING OF PISTOL AND REVOLVER SALES IN A BOUND BOOK; H.B. 5096, which is AN ACT CONCERNING THE FIREARMS EVIDENCE DATABANK; H.B. 5245, AN ACT CONCERNING THE APPLICATION OF REQUIREMENTS FOR A TEMPORARY STATE PERMIT TO CARRY A PISTOL OR A REVOLVER; and H.B. 5246, AN ACT CONCERNING THE PERMIT TO SELL PISTOLS OR REVOLVERS.

Now I myself am a law-abiding gun owner in Connecticut, been through the pistol permitting process. I belong to many Second Amendment organizations including Connecticut Citizens Defense League and the Jews For The Preservation Of Firearms Ownership. I'm here today to support some common sense legislation that has come before this committee.

S.B. 196 will sensibly change the process of purchasing a handgun and reduce duplicative recordkeeping. This will help to allow gun sellers to pay more attention to the person they are selling pistols and revolvers to instead of wasting time and effort on recording information for two separate entities. This way the information can be kept according to federal law and the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection will be welcome to examine that information at any time. And I think, as a citizen, I think that makes perfect sense.

H.B. 5096 will revise the procedures for the submission of handguns and discharged ammunition -- ammunition to the firearms

workforce is seriously understaffed. We have situations where not all of the corrections officers have up-to-date radios. So any tool that our guys can get to be safer, we think is a good idea. This bill also extends the protection to specified Department of Children and Families, the Judicial Department employees who are also our members. They regularly come up threat and experience numerous assaults over the years. We urge you to vote for this bill, and I'd be happy to answer any questions.

REP. DARGAN: Thank you, Brian, for that testimony. Questions from committee members? Hearing none, thank you very much, Brian.

BRIAN ANDERSON: Thank you.

REP. DARGAN: The next presenter is Jake McGuigan.

JAKE MCGUIGAN: Good afternoon, Representative Dargan, Senator Hartley, and members of the committee. My name is Jake McGuigan, I'm Director of Government Relations for the National Shooting Sports Foundation. I'm here speaking in support of S.B. 196. I am from the National Shooting Sports Foundation which is the Newtown-based, Newtown, Connecticut, based trade association for the firearms industry.

We represent over 500 FFLs located here in Connecticut as well as the manufacturers known as Colt, Mossberg, and Ruger, and also Cabela's which is right up the road from here. They just recently announced fourth quarter record profits, so the firearms industry is still very strong here in Connecticut.

The firearms industry's economic impact in Connecticut is \$1.3 billion. It supports over 5,400 jobs in the state, and pays \$81 million

HB5245
HB5246

in state taxes. But currently Connecticut retailers are some of the most heavily regulated firearms dealers in the nation. Retailers are required to comply with some of the nation's more stringent set of rules and regulations.

The current law requires retailers to duplicate their efforts and keep a separate bound book for the sale of handguns. There is really no justifiable reason to keep -- to have them keep this information when there are already federal requirements to keep a bound book for all firearms transactions as well as holding on to a form 4473 for 20 years.

Connecticut's firearms retailers are not the cause of criminal misuse of firearms. The financial burden that is created by this requirement and others make it increasingly more difficult for retailers to continue their livelihood, create jobs and revenue for the state.

In closing, the National Shooting Sports Foundation would ask you to support Senate Bill 196 and allow small businesses that Connecticut depends on for revenue to work efficient. And just an aside, Representative Yaccarino, I know you asked a question on the gun shows on a previous bill. All federally licensed firearm dealers have to conduct background checks no matter where that occurs, whether it's at a gun show or on the premises of their business. But also in Connecticut even if there is a private party transaction, they call the state police and the firearms -- and a background check is conducted by the state police. Thank you.

REP. YACCARINO: Thank -- that you. I just wanted for my own knowledge to know that. I figured

they had to, but if there was a computer there it would be an easier way to do it. Mossberg is in my town, I visit them on a regular basis and I'm a member of the sportsman's club. I do have a question, now in Connecticut we have the two -- two books, in other states is it just federal law?

JAKE MCGUIGAN: Yeah, Connecticut is kind of an outlier on the -- on this extra bound book that they have, the state bound book. They basically, retailers will have the federal bound book, or an A&D book, where they take -- where they take in a firearm and then they obviously sell it or transfer it, that goes into the book. And then you keep the background check forms which contains all the owners information for 20 years on the premises.

And then if you close or go out of business, that gets sent to the FBI in West Virginia. So that is an extra requirement, that -- that bound book which really doesn't contain any more information than what's contained on the federal form. There is one section they include on the form for occupation, but I don't know what that really accomplishes from the state standpoint.

REP. YACCARINO: It makes -- it makes sense what you're proposing. You really have two sets of books, basically.

JAKE MCGUIGAN: Basically we have two sets of books where you can make, you know, more errors and -- and you're less efficient in -- in conducting, you know, doing the regular paperwork and recording it. And at the same time, this bill has been up here four or five years in a row, and there is a section added

that the Department -- Division of State Police and Emergency Services do have access to the federal records. They -- that's in there, but they have that access anyway. None of our retailers are going to -- if -- if there's a criminal investigation, shield any -- any information from law enforcement on that.

REP. YACCARINO: Thank you.

REP. DARGAN: Further questions? Senator.

SENATOR HARTLEY: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chair. Thanks for being with us today. So, yeah, but they were also suggesting that the local PD have the ability to also avail that record.

JAKE MCGUIGAN: I mean if -- if they wanted to add that amendment in there, I don't see any objection from the retailers. Once again if there is a criminal investigation occurring, providing that information is not a problem.

SENATOR HARTLEY: So then the federal bound book is maintained by -- by the state department?

JAKE MCGUIGAN: No, the federal -- the -- all of our firearms retailers come under the jurisdiction of the ATF, Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. So when there's an inspection, the ATF will come in and they inspect the bound book, they inspect the 4473s and all of that information. So they -- they're the ones that have quote the jurisdiction and look over the retailers for any violations.

SENATOR HARTLEY: And -- and you mentioned -- so the one exception -- they're identical except for the area of occupation?

JAKE MCGUIGAN: There is a section on the state form

that -- that asks for an individual's occupation, which I'm still not sure why that's on there or why -- why anyone would need to -- to know that specific information. But that is the only extra piece of information that you could not glean from the federal forms or from the 4473.

SENATOR HARTLEY: You said Connecticut is an outlier, tell -- tell me the facts of the --.

JAKE MCGUIGAN: Each -- each state has different -- either state level law being basically across the country, but each state has their own set of rules and regulations for -- for retailers. But in no other state do they have an actual bound book just like -- basically it is a carbon copy of the A&D book, which is the federal book. So they're not doing -- for some reason Connecticut has this extra requirement that is not seen in any other states.

SENATOR HARTLEY: Nobody else? Not one?

JAKE MCGUIGAN: No. There are -- there are different licensing requirements when you go to various states, but I have not seen a bound book in other states.

SENATOR HARTLEY: And the federal -- what does A&D stand for?

JAKE MCGUIGAN: Acquisition and disposition. Basically when you acquire a firearm into your retail --

SENATOR HARTLEY: So that's the official --

JAKE MCGUIGAN: Yes.

SENATOR HARTLEY: -- title of this book?

JAKE MCGUIGAN: Correct.

SENATOR HARTLEY: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
Thank you.

JAKE MCGUIGAN: Thank you.

REP. DARGAN: Thank you. Further questions? Jake, as you're aware, you know, last year we did get the bill out of the committee. And, you know, we thought it was going to get through, so any help that you could give or your members do to educate other Legislators, that would be very helpful to us.

JAKE MCGUIGAN: We will do that as well. And it would be a tremendous help to Cabela's, like I said, right up the road. They, you know, spend a lot of time and if you ever have gone in there and seen the -- the traffic through their main counter, it's -- it's a lot of work on them to do extra paperwork that's really not necessary.

REP. DARGAN: Appreciate your comments. Any other comments from committee members? Thank you very much.

JAKE MCGUIGAN: Thank you, sir.

REP. DARGAN: The next speaker is getting up before I even recognize him. So we'll (inaudible) good seeing you, Bob, Bob Crook.

ROBERT CROOK: Good seeing you. Senator Hartley, Representative Dargan, my name is Bob Crook, I'm Executive Director of the Coalition of Connecticut Sportsmen. I'm testifying on three bills today. All three of them are timesavers, effort savers, cost savers to the CSP,

Connecticut State Police, municipal and the citizens.

Let me -- let me tell you about the bound books since Jake just got finished with that. This requirement was on the books for a -- on the -- in the statutes for a long time. And it took a very astute state police officer to find it. And about 10, 15 years ago we started keeping double books which didn't make sense. This -- this bill has been around for a long time, like the other two I'm going to talk about.

The only thing I disagree with -- with Jake on and with the police chiefs is I don't see any reason why they have to see the bound book, the federal bound book. If they want information on who owns guns, it's all on the computer. They want to know information on who's buying guns, that's entered immediately into the computers.

So having more police officers come in and check the stores just doesn't seem reasonable to me. We have a special division of the state police that does that and we have the ATF. So I -- what I would recommend is keep the -- keep the local police out. They don't have the knowledge, they don't have the capability and it's a harassment to the gun store owner.

The major bill I want to testify on is 5245, and this is standardization of uniform criteria for a temporary state permit issued by the municipalities. This bill has been around several times also. The original proposal was made about ten years ago by a member of the firearms board, and we've been working on it ever since.

There is no uniform criteria for the issuance

ROBERT CROOK: No questions? All right.

REP. DARGAN: I don't think so. Thank you, Robert.

ROBERT CROOK: Thank you.

REP. DARGAN: Next presenter is Kevin Borgnis.

KEVIN HOLIAN-BORGNIS: Good afternoon, Senator Hartley, Representative Dargan, members of the Public Safety and Security Administration -- Committee, sorry. My name is Kevin Borgnis, I'm Secretary and founding member of the Connecticut Citizen's Defense League. I'm also a licensed amateur radio operator. I'm here in support of Senate Bill 61, Senate Bill 196, and House Bill 5245, but I'll only be speaking on 5245.

Connecticut is one of the eleven may-issue states, meaning a permit to carry, may be -- may or may not be issued even if a background check comes back clean. Connecticut requires local issuing authorities to define suitability, but doesn't define what suitability is and is thus left up to towns to determine their own criteria.

State law has -- has given the Commissioner of Emergency Service and Public Protection the power to define the form of the application. And as other have said, towns are adding their own requirements such as three letters of reference, waivers so they can look into your credit and dental records, and indemnification if you have civil action in the event that you're fired because the police have talked to your employer.

JOHN STURMER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and members of the Committee. I'm here to submit testimony and indicate my full support for the following bills. Senate Bill 196, House Bill 5096, House Bill 5245, and House Bill No. 5246. In particular, I want to talk about House Bill No. 5245, AN ACT CONCERNING THE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR A TEMPORARY STATE PERMIT TO CARRY A PISTOL OR REVOLVER.

I suggest that it be amended to include an enforcement provision. This bill in part alters an existing statute that standardized the application across the state. Issuing authorities have already been asked by the Board of Firearms Permit Examiners not to add or alter the existing application, yet many departments did not comply. Clearly this statute is needed to require them to. However, both the existing statute and the proposed statute require the issuing authority to render a decision and notify the applicant within eight weeks.

I'm a pistol instructor who teaches the NRA Basic Pistol class, and my students routinely follow up with me on the status of their permits. This statutory requirement is routinely ignored by local police who violate both the letter and the spirit of the law with impunity. One example is my hometown of Stratford. In Stratford you have to make an appointment to get your fingerprints taken. It takes three to four months to get an appointment. After the appointment, it takes an additional 16 weeks to have a decision on the application.

I have another student who applied in Stamford in July of 2011. He was approved in January of

driving down the road. That being said, when the issue was brought up about -- too bad Senator Hartley isn't here, the issue about programming radios.

They're pre-programmed, most of them nowadays are so technical we use our laptop computers. We're not exactly driving down 91 with our laptop programming it as we're kind of going along. I think that would scare a lot of people. So it's just a matter of hitting one button like a preset on the radio in your vehicle, we're on that other frequency and we're good to go. That's all I have on the -- the amateur radio side. If you have any questions, I can -- I can go a little bit further on that?

I'm going to briefly hit on three of the firearms bills that are ahead of us. One of them would be S.B. -- Senate Bill 196, this again is the recording of the long book. I had a situation about -- about a year ago where we purchased a firearm at a gun show and there was that other book. Something wasn't logged in properly and I got a call if I could go in and refill out everything and make it legible and everything else.

I had to take a half a day off of work to go do this, to comply with the statute. And there's already the exact same thing is already being recorded on a federal level. Only somebody from the department of redundancy department would really want this sort of thing to kind of continue. It took a lot of time off from my day, and it was actually really ridiculous.

House Bill 5246, AN ACT CONCERNING THE PERMIT TO SELL PISTOLS AND REVOLVERS, being at shows and clubs. Growing up in this neighborhood,

the guns that I see at these types of shows on collector's guilds are not going to (inaudible) committing crime in the streets of Hartford. We're talking long-arms that could be well over 100 years old, something pre-World War II in pistol fashion, not exactly -- and the ammunition is not always readily available for that.

So it's not exactly a gang-banger special when they can't get the ammunition for them in the first place. And to clarify some stuff on Mr. Yaccarino, Representative Yaccarino's points earlier, there is a background check that is done at these shows, two different ways. There is a background check that is done first by computer if that person is equipped just like at a gun shop. But unfortunately that almost doesn't even matter because they also have to follow up with a telephone call.

The reason why is, my background in data management, is they don't tie it to my permit id, it's tied to my last name. My last name is common, with the last name of Hardy, so I do have some family members that probably soiled my name for me in the past. But every single time I have to wait on the phone for them to still go through and make that phone call. And whether I buy at a gun shop or whether I buy at a fair or an organization of collectors, I still have to go through that process regardless.

Last but not least, House Bill 5245. This is actually a department that I'm very well versed in. I run an organization called Connecticut Pistol Permit Issues, no surprise here. What we do is we help people navigate the myriad of steps that they have to go through at the local level. Unfortunately, it has not gotten better

SUPPORT S.B. 61 – An Act Exempting Amateur Radio Operators
SUPPORT S.B. 196 – AAC the Recording Of Pistol And Revolver Sales
SUPPORT H.B. 5245 – AAC the Application Requirements for a Temporary State Permit to Carry

Senator Hartley, Representative Dargan, Members of the Public Safety and Security Committee,

My name is Kevin Holian-Borgnis. I am current Secretary and a founding member of the Connecticut Citizens Defense League the largest grassroots gun rights organization in the state. I am also a licensed amateur radio operator. I am writing in support of three bills S.B. 61, S.B. 196, and H.B. 5245.

SUPPORT S.B. 61 – An Act Exempting Amateur Radio Operators

As a member of the Ellington Community Emergency Response Team, I was activated to help my town in the Emergency Operations Center during Hurricane Irene. While driving from my home to the town's EOC, I came across several downed power lines. At each of these incidences, I used my mobile amateur radio to notify the Emergency Operations Center of the location of the downed line and other pertinent information. Under current law, I could have been fined for using a mobile electronic device while the vehicle was in motion.

SUPPORT S.B. 196 – AAC the Recording Of Pistol And Revolver Sales

Federal regulations already require that licensed gun dealers retain a bound record book detailing all gun sales they transact. For too long, Connecticut law has required a separate set of records putting undue burden on law abiding Connecticut businesses. This bill eliminating the requirement for a separate bound book and making the federally mandated book available to police is just common sense.

SUPPORT H.B. 5245 – AAC the Application Requirements for a Temporary State Permit to Carry

Connecticut is one of 11 'may-issue' states when it comes to permits/licenses to carry a handguns. This means that there is some requirement beyond a simple background check. In Connecticut, the local issuing authority must determine that a candidate is 'suitable' before a temporary permit to carry can be issued. Nowhere does state law define what makes a candidate 'suitable,' but it does make clear that applicants for a permit to carry use "application forms prescribed by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection."

Since there is no strict mandate from the state defining who is 'suitable' each of the 169 towns and cities in Connecticut gets to determine that for themselves. In doing so, municipalities have added forms, waivers, and other requirements above and beyond what are required by statute. Additional forms include arrest-style description sheets asking for hair-style, piercings and tattoos, and manner of dress among other things. Towns are asking applicants to sign waivers to provide access to credit and dental records; indemnification against civil action in the event that you are fired as a result of



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Testimony presented to the Public Safety and Security Committee

Chief Anthony Salvatore, Chief Matthew Reed for the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association

The Connecticut Police Chiefs Association (CPCA) represents all municipal police departments in Connecticut as well as police departments at private and state universities.

CPCA supports S.B. 195, AAC The Storage of Stole Property. Currently police must seize and hold as evidence stolen property valued at over \$250, though it is seldom needed as evidence by the court. Property of a lesser value may be returned to the owner. The proposed legislation would raise the property value to \$1,000. CPCA supports this change as police departments will be able to return such property to its rightful owner for their use and enjoyment thus lessening the impact of victimization and lessen the burden on local police departments to process and store certain pieces of property.

CPCA supports S.B. 196, AAC The Recording of Pistol and Revolver Sales in a Bound Book. CPCA agrees with the Committee's intention of streamlining the record keeping requirement by making the requirement fall in line with federal record keeping requirements. However, CPCA recommends that the proposed legislation be amended to require that any such record also be made available to any sworn member of the local police department. Local police chiefs in communities where they exist are the issuing authority for the sale of pistols and revolvers and as such, should have the authority to inspect sales records.

CPCA supports H.B. 5294, AAC Lateral Certification of Police Officers. However, CPCA wants to ensure that the hiring authority retains the right to require any candidate to meet certain physical fitness requirements as prescribed by the municipality.

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CONNECTICUT CARRY, INC

229 BRANFORD RD UNIT 423 NORTH BRANFORD CT 06471

2/28/2012

President
Connecticut Carry, Inc
229 Branford Rd Unit 423
North Branford, CT 06471

Committee on Public Safety and Security

Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my support to the modifications to Connecticut General Statute 29-31 that are contained in Senate Bill 196.

This bill contains language to eliminate the redundancy that firearms vendors in this state have been experiencing in keeping a separate 'bound book' of firearms transaction records when Federal law already requires the same.

Eliminating redundancy and frustrating over-regulation to such a vibrant industry in Connecticut is sure to have a positive economic impact for everyone involved.

Connecticut Carry endeavors to be dedicated to advancing and protecting the fundamental civil rights of the men and women of Connecticut to keep and bear arms for self defense of themselves and the state as guaranteed by the United States Constitution and the Constitution of Connecticut.

Respectfully,



Richard Burgess
President

Connecticut Carry, Inc

Ph: 203-208-9577

Email: rich@connecticutcarry.com<http://ctcarry.com>

COALITION OF CONNECTICUT SPORTSMEN

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Testimony presented to the **PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE**

IN SUPPORT OF S.B. No. 196 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECORDING OF PISTOL AND REVOLVER SALES IN A BOUND BOOK.

by Robert T. Crook, Director

February 28, 2012

This bill eliminates a redundant record keeping exercise by elimination of the State Record of Sales, known as the "Bound Book."

This same "Bound Book" is required of all Federal Firearms Licensees (FFL); therefore the second book is redundant and a waste of time both for sellers and CSP inspectors.

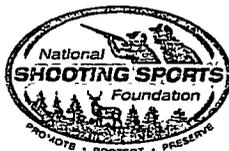
The bill eliminates the State Bound Book and allows the State Police to have the Federal Bound Book available for inspection.

This state requirement was in statute for many years, but was not implemented until a decade ago. Since that time, both gunowners and State Police have urged repeal of the requirement. This proposal was submitted by the State Police for repeal 2002, with no opposition, but inadvertently left out of the compromise gun bill; In 2010, the bill was caught in the chaos of the last days of the session and not called; in 2011 it passed the House 136-10 the last day of the session and was not called in the Senate due to time.

In addition to the Bound Book, all pistol and revolvers sold require a Registration form be retained by the seller and a copy be sent to the State Police, and chief of police or, where there is no chief of police, the warden of the borough or the first selectman of the town (Sec 29-33).

We urge Support of this administrative change benefitting both sellers and CSP inspectors.

Thank you.

**NATIONAL SHOOTING SPORTS FOUNDATION, INC.**

11 Mile Hill Road • Newtown, CT 06470-2359 • Tel (203) 426-1320 • Fax (203) 426-7182 • www.nssf.org

JAKE McGUIGAN
DIRECTOR
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

February 28, 2012

Public Safety and Security Committee
Legislative Office Building
Room 2E
Hartford, CT 06106

Position: **Support****Re: SB 196 - An Act Concerning the Recording of Pistol and Revolver Sales in a Bound Book.**

Dear Members of the Public Safety and Security Committee:

The National Shooting Sports Foundation ("NSSF") is the non-profit trade association for America's firearms, ammunition, hunting and recreational shooting sports industry. Our manufacturer members make the firearms used by law-abiding Connecticut sportsmen, the U.S. military and law enforcement agencies throughout Connecticut. This letter is to express our **support of SB 196**.

I am writing on behalf of our Connecticut based members, which includes federally licensed firearms retailers, most of which are small independent businesses that are the backbone of the state's economy. Our small business owners know firsthand how regulations, however well intentioned, can have a significant adverse financial impact on a business. Currently, Connecticut retailers are some of the most heavily regulated firearms dealers in the nation. Retailers are required to comply with some of the nation's most stringent set of rules and regulations governing the lawful commerce of handguns.

The current law requires retailers to duplicate their efforts and keep a separate bound book for the sale of handguns. There is no justifiable reason for them to keep this information when there are already federal requirements to keep a bound book for all firearms transactions and also to file every Form 4473 for 20 years. There is nothing in the state required bound book that makes it necessary, it simply creates more paperwork for a highly regulated industry and the opportunity to make more mistakes.

The financial burden that is created by this requirement and others makes it increasingly more difficult for law-abiding retailers to continue their livelihood, create jobs and tax revenue for the state. Connecticut's firearm retailers are not the cause of the criminal misuse of firearms.

We would urge you to support SB 196 and allow the small businesses that Connecticut depends on for revenue to work efficiently.

Sincerely,

Jake McGuigan

E. Jonathan Hardy
New Britain, CT

Operator – www.ctpistolpermitissues.com
Certified NRA Instructor

I am providing testimony of support on the following bills:

S.B. No. 196 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECORDING OF PISTOL AND REVOLVER SALES IN A BOUND BOOK.

H.B. No. 5246 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE PERMIT TO SELL PISTOLS OR REVOLVERS

H.B. No. 5245 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR A TEMPORARY STATE PERMIT TO CARRY A PISTOL OR REVOLVER.

I have extensive knowledge for the concept as proposed in HB 5245 and will comment on this last.

S.B. No. 196 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECORDING OF PISTOL AND REVOLVER SALES IN A BOUND BOOK.

Simply put, this just reduces already redundant paperwork. The Bureau of Alcohol, Firearms, Tobacco and Explosives already requires a similar log be kept and available for inspection. It seems rather redundant that our state require yet another log to be maintained (with the same data). I purchased a firearm last year and there was an issue with the log and I had to spend half a day to return to the business where it was purchased just to fill something out that is already kept in another book. This was a complete waste of time. I see nothing in federal statutes that says this book can't be made available to any state or municipal government for inspection. It seems that this is one of those "no brainer" bills that just increases efficiency.

H.B. No. 5246 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE PERMIT TO SELL PISTOLS OR REVOLVERS

The key change to this bill would be the following statement:

The premises of any meeting or exhibition of an organized collectors' group or any gun show, as defined in section 29-37g, shall be deemed an extension of the room, store or place described in the permit

Quite frankly, these are some of the most honest firearms transactions you will ever find. A great deal of the firearms for sale at these events are not "gang banger" types firearms. These are collectable firearms with significant historical or sporting value and most likely next to zero value on the street.

As someone who regularly attends "gun shows", I find long arms and antique pistols that are not only very old, but with ammunition that isn't easily available. These firearms really are not a problem for gang violence and should be allowed for sale at shows or collectors group.

Chairpersons and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting testimony to indicate my FULL SUPPORT for the following bills:

S.B. No. 196 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECORDING OF PISTOL AND REVOLVER SALES IN A BOUND BOOK.

H.B. No. 5096 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE FIREARMS EVIDENCE DATABANK.

H.B. No. 5245 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR A TEMPORARY STATE PERMIT TO CARRY A PISTOL OR REVOLVER.

H.B. No. 5246 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE PERMIT TO SELL PISTOLS OR REVOLVERS

With reference to HB 5245, I suggest that it be amended to include an enforcement provision. This bill in part alters an existing statute to standardize the application across the state. Issuing authorities have already been asked by the Board of Firearms Permit Examiners not to add to or alter the existing application, yet many departments have not complied. Clearly this statute is needed to require them to. However, both the existing statute and the proposed statute require the issuing authority to render a decision and notify the applicant within 8 weeks. I am a pistol instructor who teaches the NRA Basic Pistol Class, and my students routinely follow up with me on the status of their permits. This statutory requirement is routinely ignored by local police, who violate both the letter and the spirit of the law with impunity. One example is my home town of Stratford. In Stratford, you have to make an appointment to get your fingerprints taken. It takes 3-4 months to get an appointment. After the appointment it takes an additional 16 weeks to have a decision on the application. I have a student who applied in Stamford in July 2011. He was approved in January 2012. Westport is telling applicants 6 months. They are blaming a backlog at the State Police Bureau of Identification. The Board of Firearms Permit Examiners currently has a 10-month calendar for appeals. Many of these appeals are due to delays, and are never heard, because the permit is issued prior to the hearing date. What I find interesting contrast to all of this is that Bridgeport, one of the largest departments in the state with one of the heaviest workloads is able to turn these applications around in 6 weeks. Even with the delay by the state they are taking 10-12, but the applications are processed and investigated before the results from the state come back, and as soon as they come back clean, the application is approved. If they can do it, why can't others?

The answer to that question is quite simple. Some issuing authorities don't WANT to issue pistol permits. If this bill is passed, and a police department chooses to ignore it, what will happen? We need to codify that in law. I recommend financial sanctions for every delayed application, whether approved or not, and for every denied application that is overturned on appeal. All fees collected by both the police and DPS should be forfeited specifically to fund the Board of Firearms Permit Examiners to fund their

Comments from:

*Judy Aron
40 North Quaker Lane,
West Hartford CT 06119
860-523-7257*

To Members of the Public Safety Committee:

I am here today to **Support** these 4 bills:

SB 196 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECORDING OF PISTOL AND REVOLVER SALES IN A BOUND BOOK.

HB 5096 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE FIREARMS EVIDENCE DATABANK.

HB 5245 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR A TEMPORARY STATE PERMIT TO CARRY A PISTOL OR REVOLVER.

HB 5246 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE PERMIT TO SELL PISTOLS OR REVOLVERS

I am a law abiding gun owner in CT – I belong to many second amendment organizations including CT Citizen's Defense League and Jews For The Preservation Of Firearms Ownership. I am here today to support some common sense legislation that has come before this committee.

SB 196 will sensibly change the process of purchasing a handgun and reduce duplicative record keeping. This will help to allow gun sellers to pay more attention to the person they are selling pistols and revolvers to, instead of wasting time and effort on recording information for two separate entities. This way, the information can be kept according to Federal law and the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection will be welcome to examine that information at any time. I think that makes perfect sense.

HB 5096 will revise the procedures for the submission of handguns and discharged ammunition to the firearms evidence databank. These updated procedures will allow for more meaningful and accurate collection of information and documentation of evidence. We all know that with computerized systems there is the old adage "garbage in – garbage out" and I feel these measures will help justice be served in trials and create a data collection system that will have integrity.

HB 5246 provides that a permit to sell pistols or revolvers authorizes the holder of such permit to also make sales at any meeting or exhibition of an organized collectors' group or any gun show. I think that if you have a proper permit to sell pistols or revolvers, then you ought to be able to sell them at gun shows, exhibitions and collectors' groups. These are law abiding citizens that we are talking about who are engaging in these activities. They should be free to make their sales at these venues.

HB 5245 will specify uniform criteria for an application for a temporary state permit to carry a pistol or revolver. It is about time that this bill be proposed and it should be passed. It is just ridiculous that we have such an inconsistent patchwork of requirements across CT, from town to town, with regard to permit applications. First of all, passing this legislation would help to insure that municipalities do not over step their authority with regard to State permit requirements which results in an unfair treatment of law abiding applicants. Too many towns ask for superfluous, and sometimes even irrelevant, information in the permit application process. This ends up costing taxpayers money in the time it takes to process a permit application, and also making the permit application process a longer, and in some cases costlier, procedure than is required of the applicant by state law. This legislation will go a long way to saving our municipalities time and money because they will only have to require what this legislation requires of permit applicants. It will also insure a consistent and fair permitting process across the state.

Please support these important and sensible bills.
Thank You For Your Time,
Judy Aron



CCDL, Inc.
 PO Box 642
 Groton, CT 06340
 www.ccdl.us

Connecticut Citizens Defense League, Inc.

February 28, 2012

Chairwoman Hartley, Chairman Dargan, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Virginia Benedetto. I am from Stratford, and I am the Technology Coordinator for the Connecticut Citizens Defense League, and also a founding member. I am writing today to

SUPPORT

H.B. No. 5245 AN ACT CONCERNING THE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR A TEMPORARY STATE PERMIT TO CARRY A PISTOL OR REVOLVER.

I see this bill as an opportunity to streamline the process to obtain a temporary Permit to Carry a Pistol or Revolver in the state of Connecticut. A permit that any law abiding citizen needs in order to exercise a right that allows him to protect himself and family, that many towns have implemented further restrictions or requirements that go above and beyond what the state has deemed required, in order to reduce either the number of applications submitted or approved. By passing this bill, citizens in any town of our State will be able to apply for a permit, without fear of having to sign waivers for credit checks, or medical releases, or employer contact. The requirements the State has determined as required for a permit should be all that is needed for any town in this State. Each DMV office does not get to make up rules and requirements for a driver's license, so I believe the requirements to obtain a temporary Permit to Carry a Pistol or Revolver should be similar.

I also **Support** these bills:

S.B. No. 196 AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECORDING OF PISTOL AND REVOLVER SALES IN A BOUND BOOK.

H.B. No. 5096 AN ACT CONCERNING THE FIREARMS EVIDENCE DATABANK.

H.B. No. 5246 AN ACT CONCERNING THE PERMIT TO SELL PISTOLS OR REVOLVERS

Thank you.

Virginia Benedetto
 Stratford, CT
 Technology Coordinator
 Connecticut Citizens Defense League, Inc.

Every citizen has a right
 to bear arms in defense
 of himself and the state.

Connecticut State Constitution, Article First, Section 15

Public Safety Committee
Room 2E Legislative Office Building
Hartford CT

February 28, 2012

SUPPORT:

HB 5245 & SB196

Members of the Committee:

I would urge this committee to support HB 5245 An Act Concerning the Application requirements for a temporary state permit to carry a pistol or revolver.

Currently state statutes specify certain requirements be met for persons who apply for a permit to carry pistols & revolvers. Unfortunately, what has transpired over the years is that municipal police departments have begun to add additional requirements of their own, which go beyond the scope of what is mandated by statute.

These additional pieces of information vary widely by town, with some towns not requiring any thing additional, and other towns adding a multitude of layers. These include asking for letters of reference, and questions as to whether a person has all their teeth or prosthetic limbs.

Some towns even go as far as requiring applicants to provide contact information for their employers and neighbors, who are then contacted and queried about whether the applicant should receive a permit.

As the legislature knows, permit information is protected by state law, and by contacting neighbors and employers during the application process, town police departments appear to be effectively preempting state privacy laws.

The majority of applicants for permits are persons who are trying to abide by the laws and regulations of our state. By allowing this situation to continue, applicants are being needlessly delayed and intimidated.

It should be noted that previously the Board of Firearms Permit Examiners (BPFE) issued a Declaratory ruling on this subject advising that the municipal police departments were exceeding their jurisdiction by requesting additional information. Since that ruling was issued, it would appear that no changes have taken place, and the problem is still pervasive.

I would ask that you support this legislation, with one minor modification: that the phrase additional "forms" be replaced with additional "information" so that the intent of the bill remains clear.

Also, I would urge this committee to support SB 196 An Act concerning the recording of pistol and revolver sale in a bound book.

Sincerely,
Amy Stegall
Stafford Connecticut

Honorable members of the Public Safety and Security Committee,

My name is Scott Wilson, I am a resident of New London and I am a Founding member and current President of the Connecticut Citizens Defense League. We are a large 2nd Amendment rights organization with 2,000 members and growing. I am here to testify in support of:

H.B. No. 5245 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR A TEMPORARY STATE PERMIT TO CARRY A PISTOL OR REVOLVER.

If this bill can be passed, it may help standardize the process for obtaining a pistol permit in Connecticut.

1) In 2011, a very Bill (SB 967) received a Joint Favorable Status report, but did not make it out of the Senate. This would have been helpful standardize the process for obtaining a pistol permit as there are countless delays and needless hearings by the Board of Firearms Permit Examiners while citizens are denied due their process.

2) Section a) changes the plural of forms to singular

a) Requests for temporary state permits under section 29-28 shall be submitted to the chief of police, or, where there is no chief of police, to the warden of the borough or the first selectman of the town, as the case may be, on an application ([forms] form) prescribed by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection. Upon written request by any person for a temporary state permit not on a prescribed application form, or upon request by any person for such application form, the local authority shall supply such ([forms] application form) This to me seems to be a legitimate attempt to limit burdensome paperwork such as waiver forms for credit checks, medical records and so forth.

3) While this Bill is a step in the right direction, we strongly encourage supporting legislation to help force towns and cities (local issuing authorities) to adhere to the eight week issue or denial. At this time there is no penalties or consequences for the denial of Due Process in the statutes. Many States have accountability measures in place to protect the applicant's interests from delays in issuance.

4) More also will hopefully be done on the part of our Legislature that allows citizens to be issued permits based on one set of criteria, State-wide. This way citizens attempting to exercise their rights will be able to without unnecessary hindrance by towns and cities.

S.B. No. 196 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECORDING OF PISTOL AND REVOLVER SALES IN A BOUND BOOK.

I am speaking in support on this as well, this Bill if passed would help eliminate redundancy of paperwork. More paperwork may make it harder for law abiding sellers of firearms to keep up with paperwork and it may interfere with sales as well..

S.B. No. 64 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING REGULATION OF FIREARMS.

H.B. No. 5096 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE FIREARMS EVIDENCE DATABANK.

No official position on these two Bills. I would like to thank our legislators for hearing our testimony today.

**Scott Wilson,
President CCDL, Inc
www.ccdl.us**

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE**

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The ayes have it. The amendment is adopted.

Remark further on the bill as amended? Remark
further on the bill as amended?

Representative Megna.

REP. MEGNA (97th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I move that this item be added to the consent
calendar.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

The motion is to place this item on the consent
calendar.

Is there objection?

Hearing none, the item is placed on the consent
calendar.

Will the Clerk please call Calendar 463.

THE CLERK:

On page 22, Calendar 463, Senate Bill Number 196, AN
ACT CONCERNING RECORDING OF PISTOL AND REVOLVER SALES IN
A BOUND BOOK, favorable report by the Committee on the
Judiciary.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Representative Steve Dargan, you have the floor, sir.

REP. DARGAN (115th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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I move acceptance of the joint committee's favorable report, passage of the bill in concurrence with the Senate.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

The motion is for acceptance and passage in concurrence with the Senate.

Will you remark?

REP. DARGAN (115th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The underlying bill just has duplication of handgun sale records. The Clerk is in possession of LCO Number 3460. May he please call and I be allowed to summarize?

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

The Clerk please call LCO 3460, previously designated Senate "A."

THE CLERK:

LCO 3460, Senate "A," offered by Senator Hartley and Representative Dargan.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Is there objection to summarization?

Hearing none, Representative, you may proceed.

REP. DARGAN (115th):

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

This simply requires gun dealers to give local law enforcement police access to their handgun sale records.

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And I move for its adoption.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

The question is on adoption.

Remark further? Remark further?

If not, let me try your minds.

All those in favor of the amendment, please signify
by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

All opposed, nay.

The ayes have it. The amendment is adopted.

Remark further on the bill as amended? Remark
further on the bill as amended?

Representative Dargan.

REP. DARGAN (115th):

Mr. Speaker, I move this item to the consent calendar.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

The motion is to place this item on the consent
calendar?

Any objection? Any objection?

Hearing none, the item is placed on the consent
calendar.

Will the Clerk please call Calendar 492.

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calendar.

Representative Sharkey.

REP. SHARKEY (88th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker..

Mr. Speaker, I'm about to call the items again that are on the consent calendar, but I would like to alert the Clerk to two bills that we will be taking off the consent calendar. They are Calendars 380, and Calendars 431. Those are Calendars 380 and Calendar 431.

HB5333
SB130

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Will the Clerk please call Calendar 204.

THE CLERK:

On page 6, Calendar 204, Substitute for House Bill Number 530, AN ACT CONCERNING THE BOARD IN CONTROL OF THE CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION, favorable report by the Committee on Government Administration and Elections.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Representative Sharkey.

REP. SHARKEY (88th):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

With that, let me -- I was looking to just list the calendar numbers again that we are planning to put on the consent calendar before I move them. I'll be doing this

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in numerical order by calendar number.

They are Calendar Number 71, Calendar 204, Calendar 205, Calendar 287, Calendar 292, Calendar 330, Calendar 402, Calendar 407, Calendar 412, Calendar 417, Calendar 425, Calendar 426, Calendar 442, Calendar 458, Calendar 460.

Calendar 463, Calendar 492, Calendar 495, Calendar 499, Calendar 500, Calendar 501, Calendar 506, Calendar 507, Calendar 508, Calendar 512, Calendar 515, Calendar 516, Calendar 530, Calendar 538 and Calendar 545.

And I'd also like to add to that -- I'm sorry. I omitted one which is Calendar 275.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

The question before us is passage of the bills on today's consent calendar.

Will you remark? Will you remark?

If not, staff and guests please come to the well of the House. Members take their seats. The machine will be open.

THE CLERK:

The House of Representatives is voting by roll call.
Members to the Chamber. The House is voting the consent calendar by roll call. Members to the Chamber, please.

HB5025
HB5368
HB5326
HB5539
HB5146
SB328
HB5534
HB5555
SB157
SB232
SB339
SB340
SB41
SB98
SB116
SB196
SB97
SB188
SB234
SB237
SB299
SB347
SB371
SB391
SB345
SB383
SB384
SB29
SB354
HB5320
SB254

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SPEAKER DONOVAN:

Have all the members voted? Have all the members voted?

Please check the roll call board to make sure your vote has been properly cast.

If all the members have voted the machine will be locked. The Clerk will please take a tally.

The Clerk please announce the tally.

THE CLERK:

On today's consent calendar.

Total Number Voting 150

Necessary for Adoption 76

Those Voting Yea 150

Those Voting Nay 0

Those Absent and Not Voting 1

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

The consent calendar passes.

Will the Clerk please call Calendar 443.

THE CLERK:

On page 20, Calendar 443, Senate Bill Number 60, AN ACT PROHIBITING PRICE GOUGING DURING SEVERE WEATHER EVENTS, favorable report by the Committee on the Judiciary.

SPEAKER DONOVAN:

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objection, I would ask that the bill be placed on the consent calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Seeing no objection so ordered.

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

On page 26, Calendar 74, Senate Bill Number 196, AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECORDING OF PISTOL AND REVOLVER SALES IN A BOUND BOOK, favorable report of the Committee on Judiciary.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Hartley.

SENATOR HARTLEY:

Thank you, Madam President.

I move for acceptance of the joint committee's favorable report, madam, and passage of the bill, please.

THE CHAIR:

The motion is on passage. Will you remark?

SENATOR HARTLEY:

Yes, I will. Thank you, Madam President.

This bill is another bill. It is a department bill and it is about achieving efficiencies which is always a good direction to go in. And what it does is eliminate the redundant recording in handgun sales records. Right now, as it stands, there is a requirement to keep a state book and a federal, and they are essentially one in the same with regard to the information they are requiring being recorded. These books are referred to as "bound books." What this simply will do is that there will be one book kept which is the federal book. And that the state

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DESPP, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection will inventory that.

There is an amendment, Madam President, if I may, ask the Clerk please call LCO 3460 and if I may be granted leave to summarize.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

LCO Number 3460, Senate "A" offered by Senator Hartley and Representative Dargan.

SENATOR HARTLEY:

I move adoption, ma'am.

THE CHAIR:

The motion is a adoption. Will you remark, please?

SENATOR HARTLEY:

Yes. Thank you.

It was a concern of our local police departments that, in fact, while they did have the option to access the bound book, would have felt much more comfortable that they be identified in the underlying bill and that is what this amendment does. I move adoption.

THE CHAIR:

You moved adoption. It was accepted. Will you remark further? Will you remark further? If not, all in favor of the amendment please say aye.

SENATORS:

Aye.

THE CHAIR:

Opposed?

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The amendment passes. Will you remark?

Senator Hartley.

SENATOR HARTLEY:

Yes, thank you, Madam President. And if there's no objection, I would ask that this be moved to the consent calendar, madam.

THE CHAIR:

Seeing no objection, so order, ma'am.

SENATOR HARTLEY:

Thank you.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk.

THE CLERK:

On page 31, Calendar 166, Senate Bill Number 62, AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT PUBLIC SAFETY DATA NETWORK, favorable report of the Committee on Energy and Technology.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Hartley.

SENATOR HARTLEY:

It's me, again, Madam President. Thank you very much.

THE CHAIR:

Keep it going this way. It's good.

SENATOR HARTLEY:

I move adoption of the joint committee's favorable report, madam, and passage of the bill.

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Bill 5096; on page 9, Calendar 3 -- 312, Senate Bill Number 114; page 11, Calendar 327, Senate Bill Number 378; page 13, Calendar 344, Senate Bill Number 143. Also on page 13, Calendar 343, Senate Bill 116; page 14, Calendar 350, Senate Bill Number 198; page 26, Calendar 74, Senate Bill Number 196. On page 27, Calendar 83, Senate Bill Number 263. On page 31, Calendar 184, Senate Bill Number 94; page 31, 1 -- Calendar 166, Senate Bill Number 62. Also on page 31, Calendar 167, Senate Bill 64; page 32, Calendar 185, Senate Bill 190; page 33, Calendar 220, Senate Bill 351.

THE CHAIR:

Are those all the bills on the -- oh, Agenda 3, sir. The last one on Agenda 3. I think it --

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Just wanted to -- just to reconfirm that the item from Senate Agenda Number 3 --

THE CHAIR:

Was not called.

SENATOR LOONEY:

-- is on the Consent Calendar that we had taken up under suspension, substitute House Bill Number 5445.

THE CLERK:

Yes, sir.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you.

Are there any questions?

If not, Mr. Clerk, I will call for a roll call vote. Will you call for a roll call vote and I'll open the machine for the Consent Calendar.

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THE CLERK:

Immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate.
Senators please return to the Chamber.

Immediate roll call has been ordered in the Senate.

THE CHAIR:

Have all members voted? Have all members voted. The machine will be closed. And, Mr. Clerk, will you call the tally on the Consent Calendar, please.

THE CLERK:

On today's Consent Calendar,

Total number voting	35
Necessary for Passage	19
Those Voting Yea	35
Those Voting Nay	0
Those absent and not voting	1

THE CHAIR:

Consent Calendar passed.

Senator Looney.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President. Madam President, would move for a suspension for immediate transmittal to the Governor of Substitute House Bill Number 5445, AN ACT CONCERNING SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENTS UNDER THE CONNECTICUT ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, which was just adopted as part of our Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Seeing no objection, so ordered, sir.

SENATOR LOONEY:

Thank you, Madam President.