

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

July 10, 2024

The Honorable Kathy Hochul  
Governor of New York State  
NYS State Capitol Building  
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Hochul,

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed bill known as the Sporting Range Good Neighbor Act, specifically New York Bill S8461B. I believe that this legislation, ostensibly aimed at protecting the environment, is misguided at best and potentially seeks to overregulate and endanger the fate of shooting sports in New York.

My primary apprehension stems from the lack of compelling evidence supporting the assertion that traditional lead core ammunition has a detrimental impact on our local environment. Proponents advocating for the prohibition of lead-based ammunition have not substantiated their claims with rigorous scientific findings. As cited by the National Shooting Sports Foundation:

Department of the Interior Secretary Deb Haaland answered questions in a Congressional hearing and was open about her lack of evidence behind decisions to prohibit traditional ammunition. Rep. Wittman (R-Va.) used time in a House Natural Resources Committee oversight hearing to press Secretary Haaland on the science and data behind the Biden administration's actions that banned traditional ammunition on some wildlife refuges. After asking her for the evidence and scientific studies used to determine the decision, Sec. Haaland demurred, stating, "I can't cite those for you at the moment."

Furthermore, it cannot be understated how much the role that the practice of target shooting sports plays in conservationism. Again, according to the NSSF:

[As of 2023] ... firearm and ammunition manufacturers [have topped] \$17 billion in excise tax contributions to the Wildlife Restoration Trust Fund since its inception in 1937. The Wildlife Restoration Trust Fund, commonly known as the Pittman-Robertson fund, is funded by excise taxes paid by firearm and ammunition manufacturers on their products, as well as archery equipment manufacturers.

Given these considerations, I strongly oppose Bill S8461B. I urge you to oppose this proposed legislation which not only threatens participation in shooting sports throughout New York, but also the rights of responsible gun owners throughout our state.

Thank you for considering my perspective on this important matter.

Sincerely,