

## Chapter 379

**(Senate Bill 736)**

AN ACT concerning

**Public Safety – Handgun Identification Requirements – Repeal**

FOR the purpose of repealing a provision of law requiring certain firearms manufacturers and dealers and the Department of State Police to take certain actions relating to identification of handguns; authorizing the Department of State Police to dispose of certain shell casings; declaring the intent of the General Assembly; and generally relating to handgun identification requirements.

BY repealing

Article – Public Safety

Section 5–131

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2011 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article – Public Safety**

[5–131.

(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(2) “Manufacturer” means a person who possesses a federal license to engage in the business of manufacturing firearms or ammunition for sale or distribution.

(3) “Projectile” means the part of handgun ammunition that is expelled through the barrel of the handgun by an explosion.

(4) “Shell casing” means the part of handgun ammunition that contains the primer and propellant powder to discharge the projectile.

(b) A manufacturer that ships or transports a handgun for sale, rental, or transfer in the State shall include in the box with the handgun in a separate, sealed container:

(1) a shell casing of a projectile discharged from the handgun; and

(2) additional information that the Secretary requires to identify the type of handgun and shell casing.

(c) (1) On receipt of a handgun from a manufacturer, the dealer shall confirm to the Department of State Police that the manufacturer has complied with subsection (b) of this section.

(2) On the sale, rental, or transfer of the handgun, the dealer shall forward the sealed container to the Department of State Police Crime Laboratory.

(d) On receipt of a shell casing and information as required in subsection (b) of this section, the Department of State Police Crime Laboratory shall enter the information in each relevant database.]

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department of State Police may properly and lawfully dispose of any shell casings that are being held in storage because they were received from a dealer under the provisions of § 5-131 of the Public Safety Article.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the General Assembly that the positions within the Department of State Police that were associated with the duties under § 5-131 of the Public Safety Article not be eliminated as a result of the repeal of § 5-131 of the Public Safety Article in Section 1 of this Act.

SECTION ~~2~~ 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2015.

**Approved by the Governor, May 12, 2015.**