



State of Maryland
Department of State Police
Government Affairs Section
Annapolis Office (410) 260-6100

POSITION ON PROPOSED LEGISLATION

DATE: February 26, 2020

BILL NUMBER: Senate Bill 880 **POSITION:** Letter of Information

BILL TITLE: Firearms – Dealer’s License and Handgun Permit – Notice of Expiration

REVIEW AND ANALYSIS:

This legislation seeks to require the Secretary of the Department of State Police to provide notice to a firearm’s dealer and handgun permit holders 60 days prior to the expiration of their license.

Firearms dealers renew their licenses in June of each year. The Department asked all licensed dealers to provide a valid email address or sign up to e-gov, a web based notification site. In either manner, the dealer can access updates to firearms regulation, training notices and approaching renewal requirements.

The Licensing Division as part of its ongoing modernization launched an electronic, web-based application program on October 1, 2019. The new system is required for all new applications or renewal of handgun permits to be completed on-line. Any applicant who uses the on-line system will be notified via email when their renewal is due.

There are currently 27,571 active handgun permits issued in Maryland. In three years all of the permit holders will have completed their renewal on-line and notifications will be automatically sent. In the meantime, the Department would have to hand search every application on file to search for each applicant’s renewal date, as the renewal is on the applicant’s birthday. These applications are filed by application number, there is no correlation to the expiration date.