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SB958 OPPOSE

This bill will do absolutely nothing to improve public safety while at the same time further imposing draconian regulations on what amounts to a niche hobby.

For anyone not familiar with how 3d printing and home manufacturing work, this law will do absolutely nothing to prevent someone from downloading plans for and putting together a full-auto M16 in their living room. There will be no "great firewall of Maryland". The state police will not be monitoring your internet activity. The legislature isn't regulating sales of home CNC machines or 3d printers. The MDSP is not camping out at hardware stores to regulate sales of steel pipe. The bill isn't even bothering to attempt to regulate the purchase of all the myriad gun components you can already buy online. Guns aren't that complicated and plans for just about all of them are available online, free for anyone to access. It's not quite at the point where you can click a button and have a machinegun on your desk, but if you've got half a mind to tinker a bit it's not that far off.

So ask yourself, what exactly *does* this bill accomplish? It'll put some more money in the pockets of FFLs and the agency that licenses them, that's for sure. It'll also generate some money for the state if people get caught. And that's about it. A bit more money for the state for no extra safety and a lot less freedom.

HB1261 OPPOSE

Simply put, this bill imposes onerous registration schemes and draconian laws onto a subset of firearms that are disproportionately unlikely to be used in the commission of a crime here in Maryland. At the same time it is taking away some of the most effective home defense platforms available to average citizens. And it will have next to zero effect on the actual driving forces behind crime in this state: poverty, drugs, and generational cycles of municipal mismanagement and malpractice in Baltimore. One begins to wonder if the legislature is legitimately interested in preventing crime or if they simply seek to alienate and punish gun owners.

Thank you,

Samuel Swanson