



Date: 14 MAR 2022

Forcing firearms to be stored in a residence in a manner that renders the device inoperable was the subject of lengthy debate in *District of Columbia V. Heller, 554 US 570 (2008)* and found to be an unconstitutional requirement:

3. The handgun ban and the trigger-lock requirement (as applied to self-defense) violate the Second Amendment. The District’s total ban on handgun possession in the home amounts to a prohibition on an entire class of “arms” that Americans overwhelmingly choose for the lawful purpose of self-defense. Under any of the standards of scrutiny the Court has applied to enumerated constitutional rights, this prohibition—in the place where the importance of the lawful defense of self, family, and property is most acute—would fail constitutional muster. Similarly, the requirement that any lawful firearm in the home be disassembled or bound by a trigger lock makes it impossible for citizens to use arms for the core lawful purpose of self-defense and is hence unconstitutional.

The MSRPA is an organization deeply rooted in the concepts of the safe and legal use of firearms. As such, we recommend that all firearms owners educate their children and loved ones in the same concepts and practice safe storage principals.

Educational materials and programs are already available from national-level organizations, such as the National Rifle Association, the National Shooting Sports Foundation, and many others. Combining firearms safety with suicide prevention that focuses solely on firearms usage unnecessarily stigmatizes firearms ownership while dangerously downplaying the significant mental health conditions and situations that lead to thoughts of suicide.

Heavy-handed, poorly defined, and overly broad legislative proposals are antithetical in the context of Constitutionally protected freedoms.

The Maryland State Rifle & Pistol Association requests an Unfavorable Report.

V/r,

Michael J Doherty

Chair of the Board of Directors

2nd Vice President – Legislative Affairs

Bill Number:	Senate Bill 387
Bill Title:	Firearm Safety – Storage Requirements and Youth Suicide Prevention (Jaelynn’s Law)
Position:	UNFAVORABLE