



TESTIMONY FOR HB0259

Civil Actions - Public Nuisances - Firearm Industry Members (Gun Industry Accountability Act of 2023)

Bill Sponsor: Delegate Atterbeary

Committee: Judiciary

Organization Submitting: Maryland Legislative Coalition

Person Submitting: Cecilia Plante, co-chair

Position: FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in favor of HB0259 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of individuals and grassroots groups with members in every district in the state with well over 30,000 members.

Our members believe firmly in common sense gun legislation, as do most gun owners and the majority of residents in Maryland. We have a lot of solid, common-sense laws on the books, but like many states, continue to see deaths from random shootings by people who should never, ever have been able to purchase a gun.

This legislation should be re-named to the "About Time Gun Owners Were Required to Act Responsibly Act of 2023". This legislation does not make the job of gun owners more difficult. It instead makes them act responsibly, by not putting profits over lives. It allows the Attorney General, or an individual to sue them for negligence under the public nuisance statute.

Our members think this legislation is well overdue and should be passed as quickly as possible. We support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.