



Monday, February 20, 2023

RE: Support for Maryland Senate Bill 858: Jaelynn's Law

Dear Chairman Smith & Vice-Chairman Waldstreicher:

On behalf of the March for Our Lives, a courageous youth-led movement dedicated to promoting civic engagement, education, and direct action by youth to eliminate the epidemic of gun violence, I write this letter to register our support for SB 858. This measure would prohibit the storage of firearms and ammunition in a manner that allows access by a certain person who is prohibited from possessing a firearm.

Many studies have shown the effects of improperly storing guns. A study by Harvard and Northwestern Universities in 2017 showed that gun owners who did not secure their guns were more than twice as likely to have their guns stolen and used in violent crimes. An increasing number of school shootings have involved unsecured guns from their homes. Gun owners must do their part and realize the impact of improperly stored firearms.

In honor of Jaelynn Wiley and the many other children who lost their lives due to gun violence in Maryland, we must continue to push for strong child access prevention laws. For these reasons, we are proud to express support for SB 858 and urge the passage of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Madelyn A. Cobb

Madelyn Cobb
Policy & Government Affairs Manager
March for Our Lives