

SB 784

My Name is Mark Schneider I am the Vice President of the Maryland Licensed Firearm Dealers Association.

Our organization opposes SB784 as it threatens our members' ability to stay in business.

Any tax in addition to our 6% Maryland sales tax would simply encourage residents to shop for their firearms, ammunition and related shooting and hunting supplies out of state. Ammunition and hunting/shooting supplies could simply be purchased online and shipped directly to the purchaser or picked up in another state, thereby avoiding both the Maryland sales tax and the 11% "excise tax". In keeping with both Federal and State laws, firearms could be purchased from dealers out of state and shipped to a licensed dealer in Maryland in compliance with required background checks. This would also avoid both our 6% sales tax and the 11% excise tax.

The net result of this is a loss of income to the state. Maryland licensed dealers would be unable to compete with out of state dealers resulting in job losses and closed businesses.

We urge an unfavorable report.