

# **2024 SB 102 -Handgun Permits - Ecpiration and Rene**

Uploaded by: angelo consoli

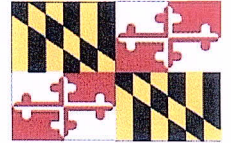
Position: FAV



CLYDE BOATWRIGHT  
STATE PRESIDENT

Maryland State Lodge  
**FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE**

8302 COVE ROAD, BALTIMORE, MD 21222



KENNY SCHUBERT  
SECRETARY

EARL KRATSCH  
TREASURER

January 23, 2024

**SB102 - Public Safety – Handgun Permits – Expiration and Renewal Periods for Retired Law Enforcement Officer**

Dear Chairman Smith and Distinguished Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

The Maryland State Fraternal Order of Police **SUPPORTS Senate Bill 102 – Public Safety – Handgun Permits – Expiration and Renewal Periods for Retired Law Enforcement Officer**

**Senate Bill 102** will create a new provision in the handgun permit section of Public Safety Article 5-309. This provision will extend the time limit of a handgun permit from the current 2 years (and for certain specified permits 3 years) to 5 years for a handgun permit that is issued to a retired Law Enforcement Officer, who retired in good standing from an Agency within the State of Maryland. This new 5-year time limit would also apply to any successive renewal of their permit.

This bill would allow our Retired Members that desire to obtain a handgun permit to renew their permit at a more reasonable time given their service and training which are well above the standards that the average person seeking a gun permit would have. This extra experience, knowledge and training should be acknowledged by allowing retired Law Enforcement Officers the ability to renew at extended periods of time. This change would also have a positive impact on the unit that processes handgun permits as this longer time limit would lead to a lower volume of handgun permits that would have to be processed each year.

A **FAVORABLE** vote on **SB 102** will send a positive message to all police officers (active and retired) in the State.

On behalf of the more than 20,000 Courageous Men and Women of the Maryland Fraternal Order of Police we thank you for your support and ask for your **FAVORABLE** vote on **Senate Bill 102 - Public Safety – Handgun Permits – Expiration and Renewal Periods for Retired Law Enforcement Officer**.

Angelo L. Consoli Jr,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, FOP, Maryland State Lodge  
President, FOP Lodge 89, Prince George's County

**MTA Favorable SB 102 1-24-24.pdf**

Uploaded by: Jenna Sublett

Position: FAV



# M a r y l a n d Troopers Association



INCORPORATED 1979

January 24, 2024

The Honorable Will Smith, Chairman and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

**RE: SB 102 - Public Safety - Handgun Permits - Expiration and Renewal Periods for Retired Law Enforcement Officer**

**POSITION: SUPPORT**

The MTA supports SB 102 which creates alternative expiration and renewal periods for a handgun permit for retired law enforcement officers.

Troopers devote their lives to serving the people of Maryland and this legislation creates a simpler process for handgun renewal. Not only does it eliminate a burden on those who continue to protect our state, it also eliminates a burden on the licensing department. Our retired police in good standing appreciate the trust from Marylanders and the consideration for this renewal process to be extended to every 5 years. Several other states follow the 5-year expiration process and Maryland would simply be catching up to that standard.

We strongly support SB 102 and urge a favorable report.

Brian Blubaugh  
President  
Maryland Troopers Association

# **Sergeant Joseph Saunders Testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Joseph Saunders

Position: FAV

Sergeant Joseph Saunders – Retired Maryland State Police Officer

Support

410-430-5496

[Josephsaunders410@gmail.com](mailto:Josephsaunders410@gmail.com)

Thank you Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee for your consideration of Senate Bill 102 – Public Safety – Handgun Permits – Expiration and Renewal Periods for Retired Law Enforcement Officer.

I am Sergeant Joseph Saunders, and I am a retired Maryland State Police Officer with 25 years' experience on the force. All retired law enforcement officers have been properly trained in the use of a handgun. When I was active, I underwent 6 months of initial training before qualifying to carry my service weapon, and continued to undergo annual training. This bill makes the handgun renewal process easier for retired officers like myself who retired in good standing from service.

Right now, the renewal process is not set up for people like me. You have to renew your handgun permit every three years or it'll expire. Extending the renewal period will help save everyone time and money.

**jeannie doc.pdf**

Uploaded by: Sarah Mastronardi

Position: FAV

Senators of the Judicial Proceedings Committee, representatives and guests. My name is Sarah Mastronardi I am a retired First Sergeant and former Acting Commander of the Annapolis Barrack with the Maryland State Police. I am currently representing the Maryland State Police Alumni Association, where I serve as their President. This is an uncompensated position. I have over 30 years of law enforcement experience as I started with the department in the late 1970's. I am honored to speak with you all today on subject matter, Handgun Permits- Retired Law Enforcement.

Since my retirement, I was afforded the opportunity to apply for a handgun permit as a retired police officer in good standing. Good standing means that the officer has retired from the department with no adverse charges or disciplinary action and has received positive evaluation. In that case, the retiree, receives a retirement badge and identification card to confirm their service with the department.

The first permit after retirement expires after two years. Then the applicant has to re-apply at least 60 days before it's expiration. At no time can you carry the firearm or permit to carry after expiration.

There was a period of consideration during COVID.

Subsequently, after the first permit, subsequent permits expire after three years. The applicant must re-apply in all circumstances. It is our request that the three year expiration be extended to a reasonable time no less than five years moving forward.

During my tenure with the Maryland State Police, I served in the Handgun Permits Section. The abundant amount of initial and renewal applications are enormous.

The workload for the investigators to handle unit and renewal applications takes valuable time from the investigations. Should you be willing to extend the period for our law abiding retirees, this would also lessen the workload for the department in that unit, decreasing the backlog of investigations, and lessen the overtime funds needs to conduct those investigations.

We retirees are law abiding, honorable citizens. Many of us continue to serve in various services in the community from serving meals to the homeless to transporting the elderly to medical appointments. Some of our retirees go back into the workforce as bailiffs, security officers, and self employed entrepreneurs. But, please note that we all served our state with integrity. In turn, we would like the consideration to extend our expiration of the existing handgun permit to at least five years.

Thank you for your time and attention.



# **SB 102 Testimony - Carozza\_FINAL.pdf**

Uploaded by: Senator Mary Beth Carozza

Position: FAV

MARY BETH CAROZZA  
Legislative District 38  
Somerset, Wicomico,  
and Worcester Counties

Education, Energy, and  
the Environment Committee

Executive Nominations Committee



Annapolis Office  
James Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street, Room 316  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
410-841-3645 · 301-858-3645  
800-492-7122 Ext. 3645  
Fax 410-841-3006 · 301-858-3006  
MaryBeth.Carozza@senate.state.md.us

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

January 24, 2024

The Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

**SB 102 – Public Safety – Handgun Permits – Expiration and Renewal Periods for Retired Law Enforcement Officer by Bill Sponsor Senator Mary Beth Carozza**

Thank you, Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and members of the distinguished Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee for allowing me to present Senate Bill 102 – Public Safety – Handgun Permits – Expiration and Renewal Periods for Retired Law Enforcement Officer.

This legislation would extend the expiration and renewal periods of handgun carry permits for law enforcement officers who retired in good standing. Currently, permits are valid for a two-year period after the initial issue date and are valid for three-year periods thereafter. Under this legislation, permits for retired officers in good standing would be valid for five years after the initial issue date and would be renewed every five years thereafter. I introduced similar legislation last session but have tightened it up in the Interim from last year's proposed seven-year renewal period reduced to this year's proposed five-year renewal period.

This is a narrowly-focused bill that improves the process for handgun renewal for retired law enforcement officers, and recognizes their years of service, good standing, and training. A fine example of this is retired Maryland State Police Sergeant Joseph Saunders, whose testimony you will see in your packet. He served for 25 years, and like all law enforcement, was properly trained in the use of a handgun before he was even allowed to carry his service weapon and continued to undergo annual training throughout his years of service.

Additionally, this legislation would give Maryland State Police more time to focus on priority matters rather than processing applications from retired law enforcement officers, freeing up valuable and limited resources to support investigations and other forms of police work.

Retired officers have served Maryland with integrity, and many continue to serve their communities through volunteer work or by returning to the workforce in a different capacity. We want to keep our retired law enforcement here in Maryland, and this reasonable extension of the renewal period is a straightforward way to show our appreciation for their past law enforcement service.

Several organizations that have expressed support for this legislation are the Fraternal Order of Police, the Maryland Troopers Association, and the Maryland State Police Alumni Association. Rick Norman of the Maryland Troopers Association and Sarah Jeannie Mastronardi of the Maryland State Police Alumni Association are here to testify in support today.

I truly appreciate your kind attention and consideration, and I respectfully ask for a swift and favorable report on SB 102.

**SB0102\_Testimony\_2A\_Maryland.pdf**

Uploaded by: John Josselyn

Position: FWA



**Senate Bill 0102**

**Public Safety – Handgun Permits – Expiration and Renewal Periods for Retired Law Enforcement Officer  
FAVORABLE with AMENDMENTS**

We strongly support changing the period a permit to wear and carry a firearm is valid to 5 years. In view of the Bruen decision, the current 2-year period for a first permit and 3 years for renewals has no basis in logic and is out of step with the policies of most other states where a 5-year permit is the norm.

While we have great respect and admiration for our law enforcement officers, to create a “carve out” on any issue is something we cannot support. This nation was founded upon the concept that all citizens are created equal and have equal protection under the law.

We recommend amending Senate Bill 0102 by removing the existing language and revising Public Safety Article §5-309 (b) as follows:

~~(a) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, a permit expires on the last day of the holder’s birth month following 2 5 years after the date the permit is issued.~~

~~(b) Subject to subsection (c) of this section, a permit may be renewed for successive periods of 3 5 years each if, at the time of an application for renewal, the applicant possesses the qualifications for the issuance of a permit and pays the renewal fee stated in this subtitle.~~

~~(c) A person who applies for a renewal of a permit is not required to be fingerprinted unless the Secretary requires a set of the person’s fingerprints to resolve a question of the person’s identity.~~

~~(d) The Secretary may establish an alternative expiration date for a permit to coincide with the expiration of a license, certification, or commission for:~~

~~(1) a private detective under Title 13 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article;~~

~~(2) a security guard under Title 19 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article; or~~

~~(3) a special police officer under § 3-306 of this article.~~

John H. Josselyn  
2A Maryland  
01/24/2024

**Katie\_Novotny\_FAVw Amend\_SB102.pdf**

Uploaded by: Katie Novotny

Position: FWA

---

WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF KATIE NOVOTNY IN SUPPORT OF SB102  
WITH AMENDMENTS

---

February 23, 2024

I am a gun owner, advocate for the right to self-defense, certified range safety officer, and a competitor in firearms competition. I support SB102, but only with amendments.

Since the Bruen decision, the number of carry permits in Maryland has skyrocketed, and rightly so. The Supreme Court affirmed the rights of all law abiding citizens to carry firearms outside the home for the purpose of self defense. Maryland's current carry permit process allows for a two year permit, plus the time until a persons birthday for the first permit, and then three years after that. This bill leaves that intact EXCEPT for retired police officers, to whom it extends the courtesy of a five year permit.

ALL permit holds should be able to have a five year permit in the state of Maryland, not just a select few. What good reason is there to extend this to retired police officers? If the reason for shorter permit times is to learn new laws in the classroom, aren't RETIRED police officers in need of the same information? They are no longer active duty, presumably learning new laws through their job. Any reason to extend permit length to retired police, can be applied to ordinary citizens as well.

Regarding background checks, there are methods in place to require permits to be revoked if a person is convicted a crime which makes them ineligible to continue having a carry permit. What is the difference in three and five years then? A person could easily commit a crime the day after renewing a three year permit as a five year permit. Extending the time for permit renewals for everyone would also ease the burden on the Maryland State Police Licensing Division caused by the large influx of applicants.

Speaking of burdens, it seems like an unnecessary burden for the MSP to then have to track the different classes of people for permit length. What modifications would need to be performed to the system to allow for this? At what cost and for what benefit?

Finally, many former police simply carry under LEOSA and skip the state licensing process altogether, further reducing the effect of this bill.

Maryland should conform to numerous other states and change the permit renewal time to five years for all residents.

Because of these reasons above, I request a favorable report with amendments.

Respectfully,

Katie Novotny

District 35A

[Katie.novotny@hotmail.com](mailto:Katie.novotny@hotmail.com)

443-617-7568



**msi testimony on sb 102 and hb 329 retired leos.pd**

Uploaded by: Mark Pennak

Position: FWA



January 24, 2024

## WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF MARK W. PENNAK, PRESIDENT, MSI, IN SUPPORT OF SB 102 and HB 329 WITH AMENDMENTS

I am the President of Maryland Shall Issue (“MSI”). Maryland Shall Issue is a Section 501(c)(4), all-volunteer, non-partisan organization dedicated to the preservation and advancement of gun owners’ rights in Maryland. It seeks to educate the community about the right of self-protection, the safe handling of firearms, and the responsibility that goes with carrying a firearm in public. I am also an attorney and an active member of the Bar of Maryland and of the Bar of the District of Columbia. I recently retired from the United States Department of Justice, where I practiced law for 33 years in the Courts of Appeals of the United States and in the Supreme Court of the United States. I am an expert in Maryland firearms law, federal firearms law and the law of self-defense. I am also a Maryland State Police certified handgun instructor for the Maryland Wear and Carry Permit and the Maryland Handgun Qualification License (“HQL”) and a certified NRA instructor in rifle, pistol, personal protection in the home, personal protection outside the home and in muzzle loader. I appear today as President of MSI in SUPPORT of SB 102 and the cross-file, HB 329, WITH AMENDMENTS.

### **The Bill:**

Current Maryland law provides that wear and carry permits for the possession and transport of a handgun outside the home may be issued for an initial term of 2 years and that permit may thereafter be renewed for a 3-year term. See MD Code, Public Safety, § 5-309(a),(b). This bill would create a 5-year term for expiration of the carry permit as limited to “a retired law enforcement officer who retired in good standing from service with a law enforcement agency of the state or a county or municipal corporation of the state.” For the reasons set forth below, we respectfully suggest that while the 5-year term for permits is reasonable, retired law enforcement officers are not entitled to special consideration for these purposes. Accordingly, Section 5-309 should be amended to apply a 5-year term for all permit holders, not merely for retired officers.

### **Discussion:**

Stated simply, Maryland’s 2-year term for initial permits and the 3-year term for renewal inappropriately inflicts unwarranted costs on both permit holders and on the Maryland State Police, the agency charged with issuance of permits under MD Code, Public Safety, § 5-306. In particular, the scarce resources of the Maryland State Police can be put to better use, especially where, as now, the State is experiencing a budget shortfall.

Maryland’s limited expiration terms are anomalous. First, 28 States are now “constitutional carry” jurisdictions meaning that no permit is required for concealed carry by otherwise law-abiding, non-disqualified adults in that State. <https://bit.ly/3S2nbde>. By definition, the right to carry in these States is not subject to **any** time limit. Such “constitutional carry” states

include states with small populations, like New Hampshire, Vermont, and Maine, as well as states more heavily populated, such as Missouri, Florida, Texas, and Ohio. *Id.* Maryland's neighbors, Pennsylvania, and Virginia, allow **open** carry **without** a permit and issue **concealed** carry permits for those who wish to carry concealed. Those concealed carry permits are good for five years. Virginia Code, § 18.2-308.02; Pennsylvania Code § 1609(f). Similarly, in Delaware, open carry is allowed without a permit. The initial permit for concealed carry is good for 3 years and renewals are good for 5 years. Del. Code Ann. tit. 11, § 1441(a)(5).

Second, even in States that still require carry permits for all types of carry, very few (e.g., New Jersey and California) impose a 2-year expiration period for permits. Michigan, for example, has a four-year expiration period for initial issuance and a 5-year term for renewals. Michigan Statutes, § Section 28.425l. Illinois (hardly a gun-friendly State), issues renewals for a five-year period. 430 ILCS 66/50. A carry permit is good for 6 years in Massachusetts, see Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 140, §§ 131(i), and for 5 years in Connecticut, see Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 29-30(b). Not even New York uses a two-year period for initial permits or a 3-year period for renewals. Rather, New York law provides that a carry permit is valid for “five years after the date of issuance” for the City of New York, and for the counties of Nassau, Suffolk, and Westchester. NY Penal Code Art. 400.00(10)(a). Elsewhere in the State of New York, “any license to carry or possess a pistol or revolver, issued at any time pursuant to this section or prior to the first day of July, nineteen hundred sixty-three and not previously revoked or cancelled, **shall be in force and effect until revoked as herein provided.**” *Id.* Emphasis added. New York merely requires that the license be “recertified to the division of the state police every five years” and revokes any permit not recertified. *Id.* § 400.00(10)(b). Recertification does not require proof of training. *Id.*

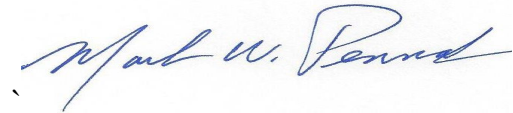
There is simply no reason to require frequent renewals. Such short renewals are not necessary to ensure continual qualification for the permit as Maryland participates in the FBI's “Rap Back” system under which the State Police will receive prompt notification of an arrest of any permit holder anywhere in the United States. <https://www.dpscs.state.md.us/publicservs/bgchecks.shtml>. The State Police may immediately revoke the permit held by any person who is no longer qualified to hold the permit. MD Code, Public Safety, § 5-310. That disqualification includes, for example, “any person who is under indictment for a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year,” 18 U.S.C. § 922(n), or has been convicted of any “felony or misdemeanor for which a sentence of imprisonment for more than 1 year has been imposed,” MD Code, Public Safety, § 5-306(a)(2), or is on “supervised probation for a “conviction of a crime punishable by imprisonment for 1 year or more” or for “violating a protective order” issued under the Family Law article of the Maryland code. *Id.* at §5-306(a)(4).

Special treatment for retired law enforcement officers is unwarranted as such individuals already enjoy a privileged position under LEOSA, 18 U.S.C. § 926C. That provision of federal law provides that “[n]otwithstanding any other provision of the law of any State or any political subdivision thereof, an individual who is a qualified retired law enforcement officer and who is carrying the identification required by subsection (d) may carry a concealed firearm that has been shipped or transported in interstate or foreign commerce.” (Emphasis added). Thus, under LEOSA, otherwise qualified retired law enforcement officers need not obtain a State-issued permit **at all** to carry in Maryland. Indeed, because LEOSA expressly preempts State law, these individuals may disregard limitations

otherwise imposed on permit holders by State law, subject only to the exceptions imposed by LEOSA itself. See 18 U.S.C. 926C((b)). Given LEOSA, there is no reason to carve out retired officers for special treatment. While retired officers are undoubtedly law-abiding, the same is overwhelmingly true for permit holders, nationwide. See John Lott, Carlisle E. Moody, and Rujun Wang, *Concealed Carry Permit Holders Across the United States: 2023*, at 43-44 (2023) (“it is impossible to think of any other group in the US that is anywhere near as law-abiding,” noting further that “concealed carry permit holders are even more law-abiding than police”) (available at <https://bit.ly/3O8SjGH>).

We urge a favorable report on this bill, if it is amended to include all permit holders.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark W. Pennak". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Mark W. Pennak  
President, Maryland Shall Issue, Inc.  
mpennak@marylandshallissue.org

# **SB102 testimony - (2024).pdf**

Uploaded by: Karen Herren

Position: UNF



Testimony in Opposition of  
Public Safety - Handgun Permits - Expiration and Renewal Periods for  
Retired Law Enforcement Officer  
SB 102/HB 329  
Executive Director Karen Herren  
Marylanders to Prevent Gun Violence

January 23, 2024

Dear Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Waldstreicher, and distinguished members of the committee,

Marylanders to Prevent Gun Violence (MPGV) is a statewide organization dedicated to reducing gun deaths and injuries in Maryland. We urge the committee for an **UNFAVORABLE report on Senate Bill 102**.

Law enforcement is a vital component of any state's public safety plan, and we acknowledge the sacrifices made by individuals pursuing a career in law enforcement. However, it is crucial to recognize that law enforcement officers are not inherently a class that must be exempt from regular scrutiny. MPGV opposes any efforts to extend the time between renewal periods for permits for anyone. This body should maintain the current renewal period of 3 years to ensure that individuals failing to uphold required standards are identified and removed from the system. Retired law enforcement officers should not be granted immunity from the need to maintain these standards.

MPGV urges the committee to vote **UNFAVORABLY on SB 102**. We believe that preserving the current renewal period is vital for upholding the standards necessary for responsible firearm ownership.