CORY V. McCray Legislative District 45 Baltimore City

DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

Budget and Taxation Committee

Subcommittees

Chair, Health and Human Services

Vice Chair, Capital Budget

Executive Nominations Committee

Legislative Policy Committee

Joint Committee on Gaming Oversight



## THE SENATE OF MARYLAND ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

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## Vote Yes to SB 324

**Title:** Handgun Permits – Accidental Discharge and Training Requirements

Judicial Proceedings Committee

Hearing: February 02, 2024

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to request your favorable vote on **Senate Bill 324.** This will be a vital piece of legislation that mandates handgun permit holders to undergo firearms safety training following accidental discharges. Failure to complete the training results in permit revocation, and allows for potential reinstatement upon meeting requirements. Law enforcement agencies must report relevant data to the Maryland State Police Gun Center, enhancing tracking and vetting procedures for handgun permits.

The purpose of **SB324** is to establish a procedure for individuals with handgun permits to have to repeat firearms safety training if they have any accidental discharges. The intention is to improve the handling of firearms among permit holders, by addressing potential gaps in their training that may cause accidental discharges. By creating a post-accident training procedure, the bill seeks to minimize the likelihood of future accidents among those with handgun permits.

**Significance and Impact:** The significance of **SB324** is that it establishes consequences such as permit revocation, and required training courses for failure to properly use a firearm. This will improve the safety of the citizens of Maryland by prioritizing the education of Maryland firearm permit holders. The bill does not aim to revoke permits without the possibility of the permit holder being reinstated. Reinstatement can be granted upon meeting specified criteria.

This bill prioritizes the protection of the citizens of Maryland. It places great importance on ensuring our communities are safe, which is why I urge a favorable report for **Senate Bill 324**.

Respectfully,

Cory V. McCray 45<sup>th</sup> District