



**House Bill 0583  
Center for Firearm Violence Prevention - Establishment  
UNFAVORABLE**

House Bill 583 seeks to establish what will be yet another in a lengthy list of “studies” to study the problem of violent crime involving the use of a firearm. Like all its predecessors, it will focus on the inanimate object rather than the perpetrator.

It is another classic example of symbolism over substance, a new program created with great fanfare, all the typical “sound bite” language, spanning multiple years, and failing to reach any viable solutions.

It is noteworthy that as of this writing, there is no fiscal note available, and the bill does not identify any funding source beyond an unspecified appropriation which *may* (or may not) be included in the annual budget. Instead, this Bill appears to rely on nebulous unnamed federal grants which may or may not be available now or in the future.

Maryland does not need more politically driven studies. The problem is clear as are the factors contributing to the problem. The solution is difficult and will take time to accomplish.

Begin by restoring the classic nuclear family; a father and a mother, both living in the same household. Teach traditional family values such as respect, honesty, love, loyalty, integrity, character, the value of hard work, and religion.

Demand that school systems provide proper education rather than simply passing students through the system who “graduate” but are functionally illiterate with no job skills and little hope of ever finding gainful employment. Hold the schools financially accountable.

Hold authorities responsible for providing safe housing. Encourage job growth by not treating businesses as the enemy and encourage job creation by ending the persecution of businesses through ever increasing tax burdens.

Until legislators have the courage to address the real problems, HB 583 is just another study.

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