



February 7, 2025

**Senate Bill 577**

**Public Safety - Distribution of Literature to Purchasers of Firearms and Ammunition**

**Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee**

**Position: FAVORABLE**

Anne Arundel County **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill 577 – Public Safety - Distribution of Literature to Purchasers of Firearms and Ammunition. This legislation would require local health departments to distribute literature prepared by the Maryland Department of Health in establishments that sell firearms or ammunition.

In 2021, the Anne Arundel County Council passed County Bill 108-21 requiring gun retailers to distribute suicide prevention and conflict resolution pamphlets to customers. This law arose from the work of our Gun Violence Prevention Task Force in an effort to place life-saving information in the hands of those who need it most in order to curb gun-related deaths and suicides through education and targeted interventions.

Although Bill 108-21 was challenged by Maryland Shall Issue, Inc. and four local gun shops, all courts that examined the law have agreed that the law is both constitutional and essential. On October 8, 2024, the United States Supreme Court denied the Petition for Writ of Certiorari filed by challengers, putting to rest efforts to invalidate the law.

Senate Bill 577 is a safety-focused and common-sense gun law. Providing this information is a good business practice that will improve the safety of gun retail customers and our communities. For all of these reasons, I respectfully request a **FAVORABLE** report on Senate Bill 577.

Steuart Pittman  
County Executive