



2A Maryland

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Senate Bill 0443
Trafficking Regulated Firearms - Felony Classification
FAVORABLE

Since 1988, the Maryland General Assembly has enacted at least thirty-four-gun related laws, which have demonstrated little to no impact on criminal behavior. However, they do make it more expensive and burdensome for Maryland's law-abiding citizens to exercise their Constitutional Rights.

Under current law, criminals who flaunt both State and Federal laws by illegal trafficking firearms to supply criminals in Maryland risk only a misdemeanor offense in the event they are arrested, charged and convicted. Even upon conviction, no minimum sentence provision applies. This seems incongruous given the use of a handgun in the commission of a crime (a misdemeanor offense) carries a 5-year minimum sentence. A current television PSA contends the "system is rigged" and in a sense, it is. Current legislation on firearms trafficking favors the criminal simply because the law is too lenient.

We recommend amendments to include the following:

- A 5-year minimum sentence without parole for those persons convicted of trafficking firearms in Maryland.
- Each firearm shall be a separate offense.

While Senate Bill 0443 is not as strong as it could and should be, it is a step in the right direction.

We urge a favorable report on Senate Bill 0443.

Respectfully,

John H. Josselyn
2A Maryland
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Attachment (1)

2A Maryland - Maryland Gun Laws 1988-2024

Session	Bill Number	Bill Title
1988	HB1131	Handguns - Prohibition of Manufacture and Sale (Saturday Night Special Ban)
1989	SB0531	Firearms - Assault Weapons
1992	SB0043	Firearms - Access by Minors
1993	SB0330	Gun Shows - Sale, Trade or Transfer of Regulated Firearms
1994	HB0595?	Storehouse Breaking - Penalty
1994	SB0619	Assault Pistol Ban
1996	HB0297	Maryland Gun Violence Act of 1996
1996	HB1254	Education - Expulsion for Bringing a Firearm onto School Property
1999	HB0907	School Safety Act of 1999
2000	SB0211	Responsible Gun Safety Act of 2000
2001	HB0305	Bulletproof Body Armor - Prohibitions
2002	HB1272	Criminal Justice Information System - Criminal History Records Check
2009	HB0296	Family Law - Protective Orders - Surrender of Firearms
2009	HB0302	Family Law - Temporary Protective Orders - Surrender of Firearms
2011	HB0241	Criminal Law - Restrictions Against Use and Possession of Firearms
2011	HB0519	Firearms - Violation of Specified Prohibitions - Ammunition and Penalty
2012	HB0209	Public Safety - Possession of Firearms - Crimes Committed in Other States
2012	HB0618	Task Force to Study Access of Individuals with Mental Illness to Regulated Firearms
2013	SB0281	Firearms Safety Act of 2013
2018	HB1029	Criminal Law - Wearing, Carrying or Transporting Loaded Handgun - Subsequent Offender
2018	HB1302	Public Safety - Extreme Risk Protective Orders
2018	HB1646	Criminal Procedure - Firearms Transfer
2018	SB0707	Criminal Law - Firearm Crimes - Rapid Fire Trigger Activators
2019	SB0346	Public Safety - Regulated Firearms - Prohibition of Loans
2020	HB1629	Office of the Attorney General - Firearm Crime, Injuries, Fatalities, and Crime Firearms - Study
2021	HB1186	Office of the Attorney General - Firearm Crime, Injuries, Fatalities, and Crime Firearms - Study Extension
2022	SB0387	Public Safety - Untraceable Firearms
2022	SB0861	Crimes - Firearms and Inmates - Enforcement, Procedures, and Reporting
2022	HB1021	Public Safety - Licensed Firearms Dealers - Security Requirements
2023	SB0001	Criminal Law - Wearing, Carrying, or Transporting Firearms - Restrictions (Gun Safety Act of 2023)
2023	SB0858	Firearm Safety - Storage Requirements and Youth Suicide Prevention (Jaelynn's Law)
2023	HB0824	Public Safety - Regulated Firearms - Possession and Permits to Carry, Wear, and Transport a Handgun
2024	HB0810	Criminal Law - Rapid-Fire Activator - Switch/Auto-Sear
2024	HB0947	Civil Actions - Public Nuisances - Firearm Industry Members (Gun Industry Accountability Act of 2024)