



Testimony of Luisa Depkin, Founder, Team ENOUGH Baltimore

Support for SB 444 [FAV]

Before the Maryland House Judiciary Committee

March 26th, 2025

Dear Chair Clippinger, Vice-Chair Bartlett, and other Distinguished Members of the Maryland House Judiciary Committee,

My name is Luisa Depkin and I am a senior in high school and the leader and founder of Team ENOUGH Baltimore. Team ENOUGH is a youth led organization that works to fight gun violence. I am writing to express my strong support for SB 444.

SB0444, mandates the destruction of firearms traded in through gun buyback programs in Maryland. This bill represents an important step toward enhancing public safety and reducing the number of firearms that could be used in criminal activities or violence.

By requiring the destruction of all components and parts of firearms collected in buyback programs, this legislation ensures that these weapons are permanently removed from circulation, minimizing the possibility that they could be resold or repurposed. The bill also authorizes organizations to partner with law enforcement or businesses to carry out the destruction, ensuring that the process is handled securely and professionally.

The positive impacts of this bill extend beyond just removing guns from the streets. It sends a clear message that Maryland is committed to reducing gun violence and promoting safety in communities across the state. The revocation of a firearm dealer's license for violations further strengthens the integrity of the law and holds individuals accountable for any misconduct.

In conclusion, SB0444 is a crucial step in the ongoing effort to protect Maryland residents and reduce gun violence. I urge the committee to pass this bill and help ensure a safer future for all Marylanders.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Luisa Depkin