



SB 444

Public Safety – Gun Buyback Programs – Destruction of Firearms

UNFAVORABLE

The Maryland State Rifle & Pistol Association (MSRPA) opposes SB 444 Public Safety – Gun Buyback Programs – Destruction of Firearms.

The United States Constitution is a commitment to protecting the rights and liberties of its citizens. The 5th Amendment holds a crucial place safeguarding a fundamental principle, ***Due Process***. The 5th Amendment states, "*...nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law,*" ensuring that government actions are carried out fairly and according to established legal procedures.

As written, SB 444 states that the Gun Buyback Program "*shall make reasonable efforts to determine whether the firearm is a crime firearm or has been reported as lost or stolen before the firearm or its component parts may be destroyed...*" What should be included is language to return the lost or stolen firearm to the lawful owner of said firearm. To mandate their destruction is a violation of the 5th Amendment.

The MSRPA respectfully requests an UNFAVORABLE report on SB 444.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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The MSRPA is the official National Rifle Association state organization for Maryland. The MSRPA's mission is to defend your rights in Maryland, support training in firearm safety and shooting skills through its affiliated clubs, and sponsor and sanction local competition throughout the state.