



Mary Kenah - Everytown for Gun Safety

Bill: HB 713 - Distribution of Literature to Purchasers of Firearms and Ammunition

On behalf of Everytown and our Moms Demand Action and Students Demand Action volunteers across Maryland, I urge a favorable report on House Bill 713.

This bill would require the Department of Health to create and distribute informational literature for all firearm and ammunition purchasers in the state, including resources for mental health and suicide prevention, conflict resolution, and firearm safety and training.

It is important that purchasers of firearms and ammunition are fully informed of the potential risks associated with having guns in one's home. The information that will be provided to purchasers on firearm safety and training will help prevent accidental shootings, and having information about suicide prevention, mental health awareness, and conflict resolution will inform gun owners of the resources available to them and their household members in times of crisis or distress.

Since the Supreme Court's decision in *Bruen*, applicants for handgun qualification licenses and wear and carry permits have increased significantly. This underscores the importance of educating purchasers about the risks associated with gun ownership and the resources available in the state.

By providing purchasers this literature at the time of sale, we can ensure that life-saving information can be put into the hands of each person who purchases a firearm or ammunition.