

February 4th, 2026

Delegate Sandy Bartlett
Chair, House Judiciary Committee
101 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: House Bill 284 – Notification Regarding Compromise of Security Features- OPPOSED

Dear Madame Chair,

On behalf of the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF), the trade association for America's firearms, ammunition, hunting, and recreational shooting sports industry, I am writing to respectfully oppose HB 284, relating to licensed firearms dealers and notification of potential compromise of security features.

HB 284 would require a licensed dealer who knows or reasonably should know that a burglary, attempted burglary, robbery, theft, or "any other event" may have compromised required security features to notify the Secretary of State Police within 24 hours of discovery, in addition to any reports already made to local law enforcement or ATF. In short, this is an unnecessary and duplicative requirement. If a burglary or other crime occurs, a dealer makes a police report. Local law enforcement can easily communicate this to the state police, if they do not already have access to the information. The burden should not be upon a business owner and employee.

Additionally, this bill is overbroad and vague in its current form. The "any other event" language is unclear and could force dealers to report minor or speculative incidents where there is no actual compromise of security. The 24-hour notice requirement, layered on top of existing reporting obligations, creates an additional administrative burden and risk for small businesses that are already heavily regulated and subject to extensive federal and state oversight.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge an unfavorable report on HB 284. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Christopher G. Kopacki, Ph.D.