



State of Maryland
Department of State Police
Government Affairs Unit
Annapolis Office (410) 260-6100

POSITION ON PROPOSED LEGISLATION

DATE: January 31, 2026

BILL NUMBER: House Bill 284 **POSITION:** Support

BILL TITLE: Public Safety - Licensed Firearms Dealers - Notification
Regarding Potential Compromise of Security Features

REVIEW AND ANALYSIS:

This legislation seeks to require licensed firearms dealers to notify the Secretary of the Department of State Police (DSP) that a burglary, attempted burglary, robbery, theft or any other event that may have compromised the security features of their facility within 24 hours after the dealer first discovers the compromising event. This reporting requirement is in addition to the reporting of any crime or attempted crime to the local law enforcement agency or Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Under current law, PS §5-145.1, a licensed regulated firearms dealer is required to maintain certain security requirements for their business. DSP Licensing Division is required to ensure every licensed regulated firearms dealer is in compliance with the law. DSP inspects every licensee annually before the renewal of the dealer's license. However, the dealer is not required to notify the DSP or any law enforcement entity if/when there is a failure of the security features or if these features have been compromised in any way between inspections. This is important because the law prohibits a regulated firearms dealer from storing firearms or conducting business if the dealer is no longer in compliance with PS §5-145.1.

For these reasons, the Maryland Department of State Police urges the Committee to give House Bill 284 a favorable report.