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By: **Senator Dorman**

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2002

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Gun Shops - Property Restrictions**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting the Secretary of the State Police from issuing a  
4 regulated firearms dealer's license to a person whose place of business abuts or  
5 is adjacent to property that is within a certain distance of property used for  
6 residential purposes; providing that this prohibition does not apply to certain  
7 existing places of business; making this prohibition apply to certain places of  
8 business under certain circumstances; and generally relating to the places of  
9 business of regulated firearms dealers.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
11 Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments  
12 Section 443(a)  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (1996 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
16 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

17 **Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments**

18 443.

19 (a) (1) No person shall engage in the business of selling, renting, or  
20 transferring regulated firearms unless he lawfully possesses and conspicuously  
21 displays at his place of business, in addition to any other license required by law, a  
22 regulated firearms dealer's license issued by the Secretary. Such license shall identify  
23 the licensee and the location of the licensee's place of business. One such license shall  
24 be required for each place of business where regulated firearms are sold.

25 (2) (I) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS  
26 PARAGRAPH, THE SECRETARY MAY NOT ISSUE A REGULATED FIREARMS DEALER'S  
27 LICENSE TO A PERSON WHOSE PLACE OF BUSINESS ABUTS OR IS ADJACENT TO  
28 PROPERTY THAT IS WITHIN 500 FEET OF PROPERTY USED FOR RESIDENTIAL  
29 PURPOSES.

1                   (II)     A PLACE OF BUSINESS WHERE REGULATED FIREARMS ARE  
2 SOLD ON OCTOBER 1, 2002, AND THAT ABUTS OR IS ADJACENT TO PROPERTY THAT IS  
3 WITHIN 500 FEET OF PROPERTY USED FOR RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES MAY BE  
4 CONTINUED TO BE OPERATED ONLY BY THE LICENSEE AS LONG AS THE LICENSEE  
5 HOLDS THE LICENSE BUT MAY NOT BE USED TO SELL REGULATED FIREARMS  
6 THEREAFTER.

7     SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
8 October 1, 2002.