

SENATE BILL 379
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

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SB 16/96 - JPR

2002 Regular Session
2r1530

By: **Senators Ferguson, Colburn, DeGrange, Hafer, Harris, Hooper, Jacobs, Jimeno, Mooney, Sfikas, Stoltzfus, and Stone**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2002

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Declaration of Rights - The Right to Keep and Bear Arms**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a constitutional guarantee of the right to keep and
4 bear arms for certain purposes; and submitting this amendment to the qualified
5 voters of the State of Maryland for their adoption or rejection.

6 BY proposing an addition to the Constitution of Maryland
7 Declaration of Rights
8 Article 48

9 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
10 MARYLAND, (Three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses
11 concurring), That it be proposed that the Constitution of Maryland read as follows:

12 **Declaration of Rights**

13 ARTICLE 48.

14 A CITIZEN HAS THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS FOR THE DEFENSE OF
15 SELF, FAMILY, HOME, AND STATE, AND FOR HUNTING AND RECREATIONAL USE.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the General Assembly
17 determines that the amendment to the Constitution of Maryland proposed by this Act
18 affects multiple jurisdictions and that the provisions of Article XIV, Section 1 of the
19 Constitution concerning local approval of constitutional amendments do not apply.

20 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the foregoing section
21 proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of Maryland shall be submitted to the
22 legal and qualified voters of this State at the next general election to be held in
23 November, 2002 for their adoption or rejection in pursuance of directions contained in
24 Article XIV of the Constitution of this State. At that general election, the vote on this
25 proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and upon each ballot
26 there shall be printed the words "For the Constitutional Amendments" and "Against
27 the Constitutional Amendments," as now provided by law. Immediately after the
28 election, all returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the

1 proposed amendment, as directed by Article XIV of the Constitution, and further
2 proceedings had in accordance with Article XIV.