

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2007 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

House Bill 617  
Judiciary

(Montgomery County Delegation)

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**Montgomery County - Firearms Regulations - State Preemption Exemptions  
MC 710-07**

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This bill authorizes Montgomery County to enact ordinances regulating the purchase, sale, taxation, transfer, manufacture, repair, ownership, possession, transportation, and regulation of firearms in the county. Such ordinances may impose stricter restrictions or limitations than those imposed by the State.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. This bill authorizes, rather than requires, enactment of more restrictive local ordinances relating to firearms in Montgomery County. To the extent that such a future enactment would include imprisonment penalties, general fund expenditures could increase minimally due to more people being committed to Division of Correction facilities and increased payments to Montgomery County for reimbursement of inmate costs. The number of people convicted under such a scenario cannot be reliably predicted, but is expected to be minimal.

**Local Effect:** None. This bill is enabling in nature. However, to the extent that a future enactment would include local imprisonment penalties, Montgomery County correctional expenditures could increase.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** The State preempts the right of any local jurisdiction to impose regulation over the purchase, sale, taxation, transfer, manufacture, repair, ownership,

possession, transportation, and regulation of firearms. Under this preemption, State law supersedes any restrictions that a local jurisdiction might impose.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Montgomery County, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 6, 2007  
nas/hlb

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