

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2012 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 579

(Delegate Elliott)

Judiciary

Judicial Proceedings

Public Safety - Regulated Firearms - Exemption from Training Course

This bill exempts a retired law enforcement officer of a unit of the federal government, the State, or any local law enforcement agency in the State from having to take a required certified firearms safety training course in connection with the purchase, sale, rental, or transfer of a regulated firearm.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill's changes do not materially affect State operations or finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: Title 5 of the Public Safety Article regulates firearms and handguns in the State. A regulated firearm is any handgun or any of the 45 assault weapons (or copies) identified in that article.

Among other requirements that apply to an applicant to purchase, rent, or receive a regulated firearm (after January 1, 2002), the individual must have completed a certified firearms safety training course that the Police Training Commission conducts without charge or that meets the standards of the Police Training Commission. An individual is not required to complete a certified firearms training course if such a training course has already been completed or if the individual:

- has already completed a certified firearms safety training course;
- is a law enforcement officer of the State or any local law enforcement agency in the State;
- is a member, retired member, or honorably discharged member of the armed forces of the United States or the National Guard;
- is a member of an organization that is required by federal law governing its specific business or activity to maintain handguns and applicable ammunition; or
- holds a permit to carry a handgun.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: SB 680 of 2011 received a hearing in the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee, but no further action was taken.

Cross File: SB 803 (Senators Brinkley and Kittleman) - Judicial Proceedings.

Information Source(s): Department of State Police, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 16, 2012
mc/hlb

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