SENATE BILL 456

By: Senator Bailey
Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2022
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Firearms – Handgun Qualification License – Firearms Orientation Component

FOR the purpose of providing that a firearms orientation component of a certain firearms safety training course required for a certain handgun qualification license may include the use of live or inert ammunition; prohibiting a person from being required to fire rounds of live ammunition for a certain firearms orientation component; and generally relating to firearms.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Public Safety
Section 5–117.1(d)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

Article – Public Safety

5–117.1.

(d) (1) Subject to subsections (f) and (g) of this section, the Secretary shall issue a handgun qualification license to a person who the Secretary finds:

[(1)] (I) is at least 21 years old;

[(2)] (II) is a resident of the State;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, has demonstrated satisfactory completion, within 3 years prior to the submission of the application, of a firearms safety training course approved by the Secretary that includes:

- a minimum of 4 hours of instruction by a qualified handgun instructor;
- classroom instruction on:
  - State firearm law;
  - home firearm safety; and
  - handgun mechanisms and operation; and
- a firearms orientation component that:
  - demonstrates the person’s safe operation and handling of a firearm; and
  - may include the use of live or inert ammunition; and
- based on an investigation, is not prohibited by federal or State law from purchasing or possessing a handgun.

A person may not be required to fire rounds of live ammunition as part of the firearms orientation component under paragraph (1)(III)3 of this subsection.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2022.