

HOUSE BILL 875

E4
HB 713/25 – JUD

6lr2963

By: **Delegates Simmons, Fair, and Lehman**
Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2026
Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Safety – Distribution of Literature to Purchasers of Firearms and**
3 **Ammunition**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Department of Health to prepare certain
5 literature relating to firearms and ammunition and to distribute the literature to all
6 county health departments in the State; requiring each county health department to
7 distribute certain literature to all establishments that sell firearms or ammunition
8 within the county; requiring establishments that sell firearms or ammunition in the
9 State to make certain literature visible and available and to distribute the literature
10 to purchasers of firearms or ammunition; requiring a county health department to
11 authorize a certain representative who may issue citations to owners of
12 establishments who violate this Act; and generally relating to the distribution of
13 literature to purchasers of firearms and ammunition.

14 BY adding to
15 Article – Public Safety
16 Section 5–901 and 5–902 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 9. Distribution of
17 Literature to Purchasers of Firearms and Ammunition”
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

22 **Article – Public Safety**

23 **SUBTITLE 9. DISTRIBUTION OF LITERATURE TO PURCHASERS OF FIREARMS AND**
24 **AMMUNITION.**

25 **5–901.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) "AMMUNITION" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 5-133.1 OF THIS TITLE.

(C) "FIREARM" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 5-101 OF THIS TITLE.
5-902.

(A) (1) THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHALL:

(I) PREPARE LITERATURE RELATING TO FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION THAT INCLUDES INFORMATION REGARDING:

1. FIREARM SAFETY;
2. FIREARM TRAINING;
3. SUICIDE PREVENTION;
4. MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS; AND
5. CONFLICT RESOLUTION; AND

(II) DISTRIBUTE THE LITERATURE TO ALL COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENTS IN THE STATE.

(2) EACH COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT SHALL DISTRIBUTE THE LITERATURE RECEIVED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION TO ALL ESTABLISHMENTS THAT SELL FIREARMS OR AMMUNITION WITHIN THE COUNTY.

(B) AN ESTABLISHMENT THAT RECEIVES LITERATURE UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(2) OF THIS SECTION SHALL:

(1) MAKE THE LITERATURE VISIBLE AND AVAILABLE AT THE POINT OF SALE FOR ANY FIREARM OR AMMUNITION PURCHASE; AND

(2) DISTRIBUTE THE LITERATURE TO EACH PERSON WHO PURCHASES A FIREARM OR AMMUNITION.

(C) (1) EACH COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT SHALL AUTHORIZE A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COUNTY'S HEALTH DEPARTMENT WHO MAY ISSUE A

1 CITATION TO AN OWNER OF AN ESTABLISHMENT WITHIN THE COUNTY'S
2 JURISDICTION THAT VIOLATES THIS SECTION.

3 (2) (I) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS SUBJECT TO:

4 1. FOR A FIRST VIOLATION, A CIVIL PENALTY NOT
5 EXCEEDING \$500; AND

6 2. FOR A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT VIOLATION, A CIVIL
7 PENALTY NOT EXCEEDING \$1,000.

8 (II) A CIVIL PENALTY IMPOSED UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH SHALL
9 BE PAID TO THE COUNTY THAT ISSUED THE CITATION UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF
10 THIS SUBSECTION.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
12 October 1, 2026.