

SENATE BILL 899

E4

6lr3140

By: Senator Ready

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2026

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Firearms Dealers – Firearm Hold Agreements**

3 FOR the purpose of providing that a certain federally licensed firearms dealer may not be
4 held civilly liable for personal injury to or death of any person after the return of a
5 certain firearm to a certain firearm owner at the termination of a certain agreement,
6 with a certain exception; and generally relating to firearms dealers.

7 BY adding to

8 Article – Public Safety

9 Section 5-149

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Public Safety**

15 **5-149.**

16 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
17 INDICATED.

18 (2) “FEDERALLY LICENSED FIREARMS DEALER” HAS THE MEANING
19 STATED IN § 5-701 OF THIS TITLE.

20 (3) “FIREARM HOLD AGREEMENT” MEANS A PRIVATE AGREEMENT
21 BETWEEN A FEDERALLY LICENSED FIREARMS DEALER AND A PERSON WHO OWNS A
22 FIREARM IN WHICH THE FEDERALLY LICENSED FIREARMS DEALER:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



4 (II) HOLDS THE FIREARM OR FIREARMS FOR AN AGREED
5 PERIOD OF TIME; AND

6 (III) RETURNS THE FIREARM OR FIREARMS TO THE FIREARM
7 OWNER IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT.

8 (B) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO FIREARM TRANSFERS IN
9 ACCORDANCE WITH § 6-234 OF THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ARTICLE.

10 (C) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A
11 FEDERALLY LICENSED FIREARMS DEALER MAY NOT BE HELD CIVILLY LIABLE FOR
12 PERSONAL INJURY TO OR DEATH OF ANY PERSON AFTER THE RETURN OF A FIREARM
13 TO A FIREARM OWNER BY THE FEDERALLY LICENSED FIREARMS DEALER AT THE
14 TERMINATION OF A FIREARM HOLD AGREEMENT.

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