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SUPPORT – SB208

Rifles and Shotguns – Secondary Transactions
Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
February 5, 2020

Dear Chairman Smith and Committee members

The Women's Democratic League of Frederick County (WDL) asks for your support of SB208 Secondary Transactions for Rifles and Shotguns.

For over 95 years, the WDL has been advocating for equality. We believe SB208 is necessary for keeping weapons out of the hands of convicted felons, domestic abusers, and other people who are legally prohibited from having guns to obtain these deadly weapons from unlicensed sellers through sales arranged online or at gun shows.

For more than two decades, Maryland law has required background checks on all handgun sales. However, in general, these laws do not cover the sale of rifles or shotguns. The tragic shooting at the Capital Gazette newsroom stands as a reminder of the deadly consequences when long guns and shotguns fall into the hands of those who shouldn't have them.

SB208 extends current laws to the coverage of long gun transfers. The use of a licensed dealer allows for a background check, only on the transferee, through the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Instant Criminal Background Check System, the transfer to be listed, and being the transaction into compliance with all federal and state laws.

We urge you to support the passage of SB208.

The WDL is a IRS approved 501c7 non-profit social organization. All donations are NOT tax deductible.

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