



SB 1047
Office of the Attorney General - Firearm Crime – Study
FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS

While Senate Bill 1047 will produce much of the data we need to verify our position on the failure of gun control legislation to impact the occurrence of crimes involving the presence or use of a firearm, we must take exception to the provision which places the study under the Office of the Attorney General.

This study should be conducted by the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP) and not by the Office of the Attorney General. We base our position on the following facts:

1. The Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention is already conducting a very similar study as mandated by Senate Bill 622 – Chapter 335, which was signed into law in 2019, and is to be complete by December 1, 2020. This is the same date mandated by SB 1047.
2. Some of the data to be captured under SB 1047 is already being collected by GOCCP under SB 622 and there no reason to duplicate a work in progress.
3. There exist strained relations between the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of the State's Attorney for Baltimore. Given that most data will come from Baltimore City, a better outcome is to be expected when the parties involved are not already at odds with one another.
4. Attorney General Brian Frosh is clearly quite biased on the issue of gun control, firearms and crime. The results of any study under the control of Attorney General Frosh will be suspect.

The people of Maryland deserve data they can trust and the best way to earn that trust is to place the study under the auspices of the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention.

We ask for a favorable report only with the amendments noted above.

John H. Josselyn, Director
2A Maryland
March 12, 2020