

Written Testimony of Don Singleton
SUPPORT HB 4

TO: Chair Luke Clippinger, Vice-Chair Vanessa Atterbeary, and Members of the Maryland House Judiciary Committee

FROM: Don Singleton, Mardela Springs, MD (District 37B)

DATE: January 15, 2020

Hello, my name is Don Singleton. I live in Mardela Springs, MD, and volunteer with the Lower Shore Local Group of Moms Demand Action. I'm also a gun owner, a hunter, a veteran, and a survivor of gun violence, and I support HB4.

HB4 MYTH #2: Federal law prohibits Federal Firearms Licensees (FFLs) from conducting a background check to facilitate a private sale or transfer of firearms, which would be required by this legislation.

FACT: "Not only is it legal for an FFL to facilitate private sales, it can help enhance public safety by ensuring a background check is run on the prospective purchaser." That's a direct quote from the *Federal Firearms License Guide*.

The *FFL Guide* goes on to explain why an FFL *should* facilitate private sales and urges them to do so: "Although it's legal under federal law for a private seller to sell a firearm to a resident of his or her own state, private sellers have no way of checking to see if the buyer is legally able to possess a rearm. Private sellers generally do not have access to complete background checks." The guide plainly states that dealer-facilitated sales, "**can enhance public safety, assist law enforcement, and help ensure firearms end up only in the hands of those who are legally allowed to possess them.**"

Thank you for your time.