



THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

TESTIMONY OF DELEGATE PAM QUEEN
HB 35 – Firearm Telematics
SUPPORT

Greetings Chair Luke Clippinger, Vice-Chair Vanessa Atterbeary, and members of the Judiciary Committee:

This bill requests a study of the use of technology in firearms to mitigate unintended consequences from lost, stolen, or improperly locked firearms. This *study* would address various aspects of firearm telematics such as technical feasibility, the best technology available, and recommendations for utilizing the most suitable technology. This technology can be used by gun retailers and individual gun owners to serve as a tool to help find their gun in the event of losing it or having it stolen. Also, firearm telematics can be used to ensure unauthorized persons are not firing a gun.

Tracking technology is not new and has been used in pets, in cars and the proposal now is for manufacturers to include them in handguns; or retrofit firearms with tracking technology. With tracking technology, gun owners can aid law enforcement with locating lost or stolen firearms before they are obtained by unauthorized persons.

Several police departments are exploring the use of firearm telematics to aid with tracking when firearms are discharged to better protect police officers and solve police-involved shootings. Other jurisdictions are exploring firearm technologies to address child-safety legislation and implementing methods to mitigate suicides and homicides from gun shootings.

This study explores using technology to save lives.