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Testimony in regard to HB 910

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Position on bill: OPPOSE

1. Since the passage of FSB 2013 homicides in Maryland in general and Baltimore in particular have increased nerly 50%. Each year new restrictive firearms legislation is passed with no corresponding drop in murder or attempted murder rates. Just the opposite, rates have increased.

It seems by a common sense approach that more firearms restrictions are counterproductive. Instead of restricting firearms, attention should be focused on the real causes of the violence and legislative resources directed accordingly

2. There is no documented problem to be solved by this bill. Firearms targeted by this bill have not been shown to be commonly used in crime. Infact, it appears they are rarely if ever the instrument of criminal activity.

3. Compliance with this law, short of destruction, or disposal (which constitutes taking) is not allowed under federal law. FFL's will not serialized firearms.

4. This bill, as a violence prevention measure is ineffective as unenforceable except as an add on charge incident to a crime already committed.

5. To otherwise law abiding citizens, this bill appears to be primarily another step in the facilitation of firearms confiscation, which has been the admitted goal of many of such bills proponents.

5. For these reason I urge an unfavorable finding

V/R
Gene Kohler, DMD
Capt, USN, (ret)