

I am writing to urge an unfavorable report on SB479. Primarily because passage as currently written *could* endanger my daughter and turn me into a criminal when it took effect.

At this moment, my 17-year old daughter is able to gain access to my firearm safes, and thus, loaded firearms when she is unsupervised. I have, intentionally, given her the codes/combinations to those safes in order that she may protect herself - should the need arise in a crisis situation - during times when she is alone and unsupervised in our home.

My daughter has been instructed in the safe and effective use of firearms since a young age. There is no one on this Earth I would trust more in the handling a firearm. To amend Maryland law such that I have to deny her access to my safes, should she need to protect herself in a crisis, would be is an enormous injustice.

In addition, I have no desire to become a criminal. I believed one meaning of the word "could" is "possibility." I wanted to make sure, so I looked up "could" in the Cambridge online dictionary. I was right: Definition-B1 was "used to express possibility, especially slight or uncertain possibility."

As mentioned above, I keep my firearms secured and I have a 17-year old daughter. She, her cousin, and two friends, are all 17 and all very intelligent (scored either 34+ on the ACT or 1500+ on the SAT). There are times that all four of these young adults are in my home - simultaneously.

*Could* these 17-year olds defeat the safes I keep my firearms in? In other words, is there an "uncertain possibility" of that? Given how smart the four are, the answer must be yes. Consequently, it seems to me, just by allowing them in my home SB-479 will turn me into a criminal.

By the way, in case anyone might be wondering, *would* any of these 17-year olds try to defeat my safes and gain access to my firearms? No, no, they *would* not.

Sincerely,  
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