

HB683  
OPPOSE  
Michelle Klein  
Brandywine, MD  
District 27A

I am a Woman of Color, Mom, teacher, volunteer firearms instructor for women, and safe and law abiding citizen. You might ask why a Mom and teacher would enter into the world of firearm ownership. Well, this Mom once had to call 911 when an angry person walked along the driveway near my home and verbally threatened my family. It took 20 minutes for the police to arrive that day! 20 very, very long and scary minutes holding my young children inside the house, and trying to keep them from my fear! To make matters worse, because of the circumstances that angry man was not taken to jail but simply asked to leave. I learned that horrible day, that when my family's safety is in danger that seconds count. But sadly, the police are many minutes away. That was the day I decided to become a safe, educated citizen who could protect their family if ever threatened again. I tell you that I am not alone, as so many now millions of women have also decided to protect their families with safe and legal firearm ownership. That is especially true this year as we deal with increased crime from prolonged economic losses during this pandemic.

Why am I in opposition to this bill?

- I know of several collectors and hobby smiths who would become felons overnight if this bill were to pass. These are law abiding, good and wonderful people who simply have a hobby.
- I am also in opposition because I do not see how this bill would lower violent crime. For example, did you know that anywhere between 60,000 to 2.5 million lives are saved every year by citizens that use a firearm in a defensive situation? That data comes from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention; that data was obtained by studies from the CDC's scientists themselves; a source we are told to trust.