

February 24, 2021

Maryland House of Delegates

Subject: Gun Legislation – House Bills – HB0175, HB0638, HB1291

Dear Sir or Madam,

All of the above legislative gun and ammunition bills will adversely affect law abiding citizens and legitimate gun vendors who already have passed background checks and own legal firearms. These laws will primarily punish law abiding citizens and possibly result in making them law violators, inadvertently. Although the laws may be well intentioned, their net effect will be to place additional burdens on good citizens and legitimate gun and ammunition vendors. The laws will have minimal effect on gun violence and criminals who use guns to commit crimes. It might make legislators feel good because they believe they are doing something constructive; however, the opposite is actually true. I am not aware of any valid studies to support the subject laws as being effective against gun violence. I believe their effects will be infinitesimal.

Criminals will not follow the laws you are pushing on to your constituents. Remember you are where you are to serve your constituents, not to punish them. Gun violence has been and will certainly continue to be a difficult problem to solve. Legislators need to focus on areas where laws and the judicial system can have a greater effect on this troubling problem. If a person commits a crime using a handgun, then focus on those individuals. Focus on those areas in society where the violent gun crimes are being committed. Leave good citizens alone.

In summary, I believe the above laws will do little to address the problem of gun violence. They will only impinge on the rights of good citizens and place additional financial burdens on the citizenry and legitimate gun vendors.

Daniel Brulinski