

HB0175 – Ammunition – Sales and Transfers

Jesse Picard

Position: Opposed

This bill would require background checks to be performed on would-be purchasers of ammunition using the FBI NICS index. The Brady Act limits access to the NICS system to firearm purchases on firearms it regulates. Ammunition is not included in this.

Moreover, individuals who are not prohibited to possess ammunition may be denied purchase or experience delay in taking possession from merely sharing certain characteristics with another prohibited person.

Even with a Handgun Qualifying License (HQL), as this bill would exempt valid HQL holders from the background check on ammunition, this would be a gross misuse of the license. The HQL is for sale, transfer and purchase of handguns **only**. It would impose great cost on the consumer and MSP as acquiring an HQL requires four hours of training, fingerprinting, application, and licensing fees which can easily be in the hundreds of dollars. Just to purchase a \$10 box of ammunition. This would drive business for ammunition to retail outlets outside the state of MD.

I urge an unfavorable report on this bill.

Sincerely,

Jesse Picard