

Submitted by: James I. McGuire III  
Ijamsville, MD  
District 4  
25 February 2021

2021 SESSION

**HOUSE BILL 0200**

Public Safety – Access to Firearms – Storage Requirements

- **OPPOSED** -

Sirs -

Let's take the speculation out of this. I have a 14-year-old son who I will loan to you for a day. We will come to the site of your choosing, and we will settle, conclusively and demonstrably, whether or not you can satisfy:

- A MINOR **COULD NOT** REASONABLY GAIN ACCESS TO THE AMMUNITION ;
- AN UNSUPERVISED MINOR **COULD** GAIN ACCESS TO THE FIREARM ;

I wish you luck.

– Regurgitated testimony from cross-filed SB-0479 --

Again, I am writing to the Maryland General Assembly in opposition to proposed legislation. SB-479 is a drift-net of speculative criminality. This is absurd. Let's examine one section of the text:

(c) (1) A person may not store or leave a [~~loaded~~] firearm in a location where the person knew or should have known that an unsupervised [~~child would~~] MINOR COULD gain access to the firearm.

By this text, no actual minor need be present, only that a firearm could possibly be accessed by one (should he magically appear out of thin air.) It is unclear how this speculative "gain access" event would be evaluated and by whom.

Further, the "accessibility" criterion for a "minor" changes drastically from youth to near-adulthood. Placing a firearm on a high-shelf well out of "access" to a toddler would still be in violation because a fictitious-but-not-present 17-year-old could easily gain access.

There is so much more wrong with this legislation, but I am content to stop here. SB-479 is one of the worst bills I have had the displeasure of reading and responding to. Y'all should be embarrassed to put something this bad out for consideration.

I strongly urge an **unfavorable report**.

Regards,



James I. McGuire III