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State of Maryland
House of Delegates Ways and Means Committee
Room 131
House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

January 29, 2021

Re: Bill: **HB0450** - Election Lawn - Polling Sites - Firearms Prohibition
Position: **OPPOSE**

Dear Mdm. Chairwoman, Mr. Vice-Chairman, and Committee Members

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion on this bill.

I have been a Maryland Wear and Carry Permit holder for over ten years. This bill would directly impact me should it become law. I vote at an early polling location specifically because firearms are not prohibited (unlike public school property, which is my Election Day polling place). I travel to and from work while responsibly carrying my firearm. I do not believe that securing my firearm in the car has ever been a good idea (because it makes firearms more likely to fall into the wrong hands), but under this bill, even that would be prohibited. I believe the safest place for my firearm to be is with me.

Furthermore, I do not believe there is a single instance of someone using a gun in a polling place in the commission of a crime. As such, this bill seems to be a solution to a problem that does not exist.

Passing this bill into law would make it a lot harder, if not impossible, for me to vote, as I must carry a firearm as part of my job and my work hours would prohibit dropping my gun at home or another safe place before heading to a polling place.

I respectfully ask that you give an unfavorable report on this bill. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

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