

Nicholas DeTello

SB456 Criminal Law - Theft of a Handgun

Favorable

2/16/2022

I am a student, Eagle Scout, family man, as well as a Civil Rights Enthusiast. I have voted independently, I am currently registered as a Libertarian, and I have a diverse set of views (some left, some right). These include but are not limited to: equality, limiting abuse of police power, protection of minority groups (such as my direct LGBT family) and decriminalization of victimless crimes (drug possession, gun possession, exercising civil rights, etc.). As a Maryland gunowner I have had to go through the rigorous requirements behind the Handgun Qualification License, and I am familiar with the arbitrary requirements historically required by it. For this reason, I urge a favorable report of Senate Bill 456.

Too often I find myself testifying *against* bills in Annapolis; this is usually due to proposed bills being used as tools to enhance the overreach of already far too-powerful Law Enforcement Agencies. I would testify the same way even if it was overreach in Austin, Texas or Phoenix, Arizona. Many of the answers to the problems in this country are not solved by giving police **more** ways to arrest and jail citizens. Often the opposite is true; officer badge cams, repealing qualified immunity, decriminalization of victimless crimes, and favoring rehabilitation over incarceration are all positives in my book. That's exactly why this bill is so important; I strongly support empowering citizens and taking harsh/unnecessary laws off the books.

I believe the live-fire requirement is a barrier to entry purposely left in place to prevent citizens in Baltimore City from exercising their rights. Since live-fire requires a firing range, this prohibits those in the city from getting their HQL without transporting themselves to a far away range capable of providing this.

For the purposes of providing fair access to the HQL, and removing this discriminatory live-fire requirement, I urge you to vote favorably on Senate Bill 456.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicholas DeTello". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small "s" before the "Tello" part.

Nicholas DeTello

2422 Clydesdale Rd, Finksburg, MD 21048

ndetello@hotmail.com