



JOHN A. OLSZEWSKI, JR.
County Executive

JOEL N. BELLER
Acting Director of Government Affairs

JOSHUA M. GREENBERG
Associate Director of Government Affairs

MIA R. GOGEL
Associate Director of Government Affairs

BILL NO.: **House Bill 1021**

TITLE: Public Safety – Licensed Firearms Dealers – Security Requirements

SPONSOR: The Speaker

COMMITTEE: Judiciary

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

DATE: March 2, 2022

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 1021 – Public Safety – Licensed Firearms Dealers – Security Requirements. This legislation would establish enhanced security requirements for licensed firearm dealers.

Protecting public safety is one of the most fundamental responsibilities of local government. As leaders, we have an obligation to keep our communities safe and make sure that dangerous weapons stay out of the hands of bad actors. When Baltimore County introduced the Secure All Firearms Effectively (SAFE) Act, it was in response to a series of firearm retailer robberies throughout the region. In just one robbery, 51 firearms had been stolen. Once these weapons are taken, they can be sold, traded, and used in the perpetration of a crime without ever having been registered to a particular owner.

House Bill 1021 employs a combination of physical security, video surveillance, and alarm systems to provide a baseline level of security at firearm retailers to discourage burglaries and prevent guns from being stolen. This legislation is a common sense step to prevent gun violence, keep firearms out of the hands of violent offenders, and make the State of Maryland safer for all residents.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 1021. For more information, please contact Joel Beller, Acting Director of Government Affairs at jbeller@baltimorecountymd.gov.