

HB1021– Licensed Firearms Dealers – Security Requirements

This bill erroneously presumes that licensed dealers are careless storing firearms. It makes unreasonable demands on dealers with regard to how they store firearms. Yet the Maryland State Police are exempt from this very obligation. Why? Because the State Police, just like dealers, already take appropriate security precautions and have a vested interest in proper storage. Dealers are already incentivized to have adequate security measures in place, as they certainly want their inventory protected, and they so do so already. Demanding that premises have security provisions so massive and expensive that not even the police have to protect their guns in storage is unreasonable and unfair. This bill mandates measures in place reminiscent of a military fortress. It is apparent the real motivation of this bill is not public safety, but as a backdoor scheme to drive dealers out of business by imposing upon them unreasonable and unfeasible obstacles. I request an unfavorable report.