

As a gun owner, I enjoy the building and engineering of firearms. It is an interesting hobby that includes great people. Since the beginning of this Country people have enjoyed making firearms in the privacy of their own homes. Everyone I know that deals with building firearms follow Maryland state law and ensure compliance throughout their build, as do I. There are many of these homemade firearms in the hands of Marylanders that are legal and safe. I do not think that adding more regulations for the entire state is going to fix the issue of gun violence in Baltimore city. By banning 50 years worth of home builds you will put many Marylanders at risk of becoming a "criminal" simply because they have a collection of firearms that they have built, or maybe have had passed down in their family.

The bill as written puts a straight ban on homemade firearms that are now in legal possession. This violates the 2nd amendment of the US Constitution, the "right to keep and bear arms." As well, serializing these gun would also violate federal law since the FFLs are not the manufacturer of the weapon and don't have a manufacturer license. They would not be allowed to serialize it since they didn't build it. Also in today's supply chain and manufacturing crisis engraving machines are expensive and difficult to come by. It gives these hard working, local, small business owners a very short window to buy these machines and set them up and only to use them for 6 months. Another thought is the cost to the us is still unknown and the wait times could exceed the estimated 6 months.

I graduated a gunsmithing course in January of this year. I worked hard building what I have, and I have done my research and followed Maryland law to build my collection

into compliant weapons. A lot of my money and my time has gone into this, and I don't think it's right that I'm being punished because crime in Baltimore city can't be controlled. Maryland extends to more than just the metro area. It's about time we start talking to each other and tackle this issue together instead of listening to a one sided, anti-gun agenda.

As a life long Maryland resident and veteran who has served this great nation and state, I strongly oppose this bill. I will leave this state, as I'm sure many fellow veterans will, if my rights as a gun owner continue to be stripped away.

Patrick Gentry  
805 Washington rd  
Westminster MD 21157  
[443-878-8593](tel:443-878-8593).