Testimony prepared for the Judiciary Committee on

Senate Bill 387

March 23, 2022 Position: **Favorable**

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of public safety. I am Lee Hudson, assistant to the bishop for public policy in the Delaware-Maryland Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, a faith community with three synods in every part of Maryland.

Our community has stated in several different decisions and communications that adequate regulation of firearms is an essential for public security and safety. Typically, government regulation policy for weapons is well below the necessary by the standard our community advocates.

"Ghost guns" are a commercial market expansion meant to thwart existing weapons regulation. The products can be incompletely manufactured to eliminate identification.

Their marketing is calculated to move product; e-commerce, record-free, untraceable. This expansion is specifically directed toward those seeking to obtain weapons outside the State's regulatory regime. Which will produce the indefensible result of putting the State out of compliance with its own law.

There are enough illegal weapons being trafficked already. There's no reason to legalize it.

We urge a favorable report for **Senate Bill 387**.

Lee Hudson