



**Delaware-Maryland Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

Testimony prepared for the  
**Judiciary Committee**  
on  
**House Bill 364**  
February 8, 2023  
Position: **Unfavorable**

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee thank you for this opportunity to testify on behalf of the public safety. I am Lee Hudson, assistant to the bishop for public policy in the Delaware-Maryland Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Our faith community has said in several decisions and communications that adequate regulation of firearms is an essential function of public authority for the sake of the public safety. Typically, regulation of weapons in the U.S. is below the necessary by the standard our community has hoped and worked for.

**House Bill 364** would repeal weapons regulation advocated and worked for by many Maryland citizens and public organizations for many years. Requiring permitting does not infringe any established right. Permitting carry, transport, and possession of weapons is well-established in law and perfectly appropriate for public safety. We therefore urge your unfavorable report.

Lee Hudson