



Randallstown

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Randallstown NAACP is in favor of SB 0744 Crimes and Corrections-Penalties and Procedures.

Our review of the academic literature found that a broad array of evidence indicates that gun availability is a risk factor for homicide, both in the United States and across high-income countries. Case-control studies, ecological time-series and cross-sectional studies indicate that in homes, cities, states and regions in the U.S., where there are more guns, both men and women are at a higher risk for homicide, particularly firearm homicide.

Baltimore has faced unique challenges related to violent crime. Since 2015, the city has seen an excess of 300 homicides per year—the overwhelming majority gun-related. By way of comparison, a total of 292 people were murdered in New York City in 2017, which has a population nearly 14 times larger. Further over 35% of the homicide suspects (2022 in Baltimore City and Baltimore County) are under the supervision of the Division and Parole and Probation.

Substantive violations occur if you commit a new crime during the probation period. A substantive violation is something more than a breach of a probation condition that is a byproduct of the original offense. A substantive violation is a separate act that involves committing a separate criminal offense. Case law has found that carrying a handgun while a felony is a substantive violation of probation. Further, the bill provides resources to hopefully reintegrate the offender into society. **Therefore, the Randallstown NAACP is in favor of SB 0744.**

