

Judicial Proceedings Committee
Noah Sann
February 6th, 2023
Testimony in opposition of SB1

Members of the committee,

I am a 22-year-old resident of Baltimore City urging your opposition to this bill for the following reasons.

I have been carrying a firearm in public areas since 2021 with a Maryland wear and carry permit. My ability to lawfully carry my firearm for self-defense has been used to help myself and others avoid injury from violent attacks on multiple occasions. The passing of this bill would severely restrict my ability to defend against certain kinds of violence that occurs in my community daily by forcing me to leave my firearm locked in my vehicle or home, and not on my person ready to be used in defense.

This bill does not work to stop the robberies and shootings in my community. These are largely committed by people who do not possess wear and carry permits. While this is not the focus of this bill, I think that the legislature's efforts should focus more on crime instead of restricting where people can lawfully carry firearms. I have seen time and time again people ignore gun laws to illegally acquire guns and use them to commit violent crimes, and this bill would only impact those in my community who follow the law by getting permits to carry.

There are also frequent vehicle break-ins where I live and in areas I go to frequently. If this bill were to be passed into law, more firearms would have to be locked up in cars while people go into certain areas of the community. This creates a risk of having more guns get stolen and passed around in the streets.

Due to these reasons, I urge your opposition to SB1. Thank you for your consideration.

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