

My name is Paul Greenbeck, I am 60 years old and live in Parkville Maryland. I am **opposed** to SB1 because the bill does nothing to deter crime or provide safety to the citizens of Maryland or the visitors to Maryland. SB1 seems to be based on fear, and not fact. Fear is a powerful persuasion. It builds emotion and feelings that tend to cause people to make rash judgments. But feelings and emotions are not truths. Truths are based on facts, and the facts provide context and clarity.

Unfortunately, the facts do not support or defend SB1. The simple facts are:

- Crime is up in Maryland and continues to increase. Baltimore County Fraternal Order of Police reported assaults up from 5,191 to 5,857, thefts up from 5,512 to 6,167. Crime is up where I make my home, where I work, where I worship, where my children go to school, where I shop, where I eat and where I go for entertainment.
- Police Departments across the State of Maryland are facing record shortages of Police Officers. They are facing great difficulty in retaining and recruiting Police Officers.
- Police will freely admit they cannot be everywhere, all the time. And now there are significantly less Police to safeguard everyone.
- The vast majority of guns used in crimes are not legally purchased or carried by the criminal.
- SB1 is not fiscally responsible. Similar legislation has been passed in other States, such as New Jersey and New York, and has been legally challenged and temporarily blocked by lawsuits. Why incur such costs knowing there will be legal challenges? Surely the State of Maryland has more important issues to defend.

SB1 does not reduce crime, increase the number of Police, protect me or my family and is costly to the citizens of Maryland. SB1 restricts the freedom of Marylanders like me who have taken the time and demonstrated the responsibility to obtain a permit to legally carry a concealed weapon.

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Again, the facts are simple. CCW permit holders:

- Have not been convicted of a felony or a misdemeanor or served more than 2 years incarceration.
- Have not been convicted of a crime involving CDS.
- Are not an alcoholic, addict or habitual users of CDS.
- Do not exhibit a propensity for violence.
- Have completed an approved firearms training course consisting of 16 hours of instruction on State firearm law, home firearm safety, handgun mechanisms and operation.
- Have demonstrated gun safety and proficiency.
- Have submitted a written application containing work and personal references.
- Have been fingerprinted and background checked by the Maryland State Police

SB1 restricts the law-abiding Marylanders that have completed a lengthy, costly and demanding process to obtain a CCW permit. It does not address the criminal element that unlawfully uses firearms in the commission of crime and will not abide by this legislation if passed and ratified into law.

Simply stated, SB1 will not allow me to protect myself or my family in the public places I go even though the United States Constitution provides me the right and I have completed the necessary requirements to legally carry a concealed weapon in Maryland.

I strongly urge you to vote against SB1!