

Re: Senate Bill 1 (SB1)
UNFAVORABLE

All politicians and constituents should agree crime anywhere is a problem. It seems crime is inevitable, sometimes unpunishable and a great threat to law-abiding "good people" of all races, backgrounds and walks of life. Many folks live in fear of being attacked, rightfully so as we've witnessed senseless murders spike in recent years with what appears to be no end to this trend.

As a properly trained firearms owner, deemed capable by the State of Maryland, I am elated to have obtained, from the Maryland State Police, proper license to purchase as well as to wear and carry a firearm for personal defense. I am aware that I am not police and have no intention to involve myself with any altercation or issues that are not life-threatening to myself, or persons close to me. I do however intend to protect my life to the best of my own ability including the use of equal force should I find myself under assault or attack from criminals. Like you, I am praying each day that this never happens.

I can think of no-good reason as to why properly trained and licensed constituents should be severely limited in their ability to protect themselves in extreme situations and how passing SB1 would eliminate crime making Maryland a safer place to live. The Supreme Court agrees to our rights to carry a firearm for protection and the state of Maryland asks for it to be concealed. There is no reason to conceal a firearm if you must announce and request permission to have it on your person as you visit various properties, that might as well be open carry.

This senate bill directly affects the safety of Maryland citizens while not impacting criminals the least; as criminals, by definition, do not abide by the law and are a true menace to our society.

I urge you to carefully consider your actions in deciding what's best in the interest of safety for all Marylanders. Thank you for listening,

Frank Burton III