SB001 - UNFAV 1

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SB001 - Wearing, Carrying, or Transporting Firearms - Restrictions (Gun Safety Act of 2023)

Unfavorable

2/6/2023

A storm is a-Bruening; Marylanders can now safely apply for a Maryland carry permit without fear of being denied due to <u>Police Discretion</u>. Marylanders are all too familiar with how Police are unfair arbiters when it comes to <u>administering laws</u> due to Bias in <u>race, color, age, sex, gender, nationality,</u> <u>disability, and religion</u>. Regardless of the MGA's stance on the Bruen decision, it cannot be denied that Bruen has fixed a much-broken part of our legal system depending solely on the same law enforcement that MD lawmakers are already <u>trying desperately to reform</u>. Please do not let this opportunity of equality go to waste by passing this bill into law; SB001 restricts the freedoms of Marylanders who need their right to self-defense the most.

As one of your Maryland constituents I too have been under the impression that I could be denied - forfeiting an investment in firearms training, passport ID, electronic fingerprints, and application fee. I consider myself to be fortunate enough to have a privileged lifestyle; how do you think MD law has impacted those who find themselves much less fortunate than I? None of the above strict MD requirements I listed changed at all, and law enforcement will still catch applicants who legally cannot carry a firearm regardless. SB001 is an over-reaction with a solution to a problem that doesn't exist.

Adding additional legal barriers to entry will only incentivize the previous status-quo; Marylanders in life-threatening scenarios will have to choose between being unarmed or carrying a firearm illegally. SB001 only creates new problems; we should be fixing real problems, such as criminalizing the theft of a firearm.

For these reasons I urge an unfavorable report of Senate Bill 001.

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