

Sergeant Joseph Saunders – Retired Maryland State Police Officer

Support

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Thank you Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee for your consideration of Senate Bill 825 – Public Safety – Handgun Permits – Expiration and Renewal Periods for Retired Law Enforcement Officer.

I am Sergeant Joseph Saunders, and I am a retired Maryland State Police Officer with 25 years' experience on the force. All retired law enforcement officers have been properly trained in the use of a handgun. When I was active, I underwent 6 months of initial training before qualifying to carry my service weapon, and continued to undergo annual training. This bill makes the handgun renewal process easier for retired officers like myself who retired in good standing from service.

Right now, the renewal process is not set up for people like me. You have to renew your handgun permit every three years or it'll expire. Extending the renewal period will help save everyone involved time and money.