

SB1 Testimony
2/6/2023

My Name is Mark Schneider, Vice President of the Maryland Licensed Firearms Dealers Association and Atlantic Guns.

On behalf of our organization and its members, my company and our employees, and myself as a 2nd amendment advocate, I oppose SB1.

What should be clear from the events following the recent pandemic, civil unrest and a spike in violent crime across our country, is the reality that the individual's right to self-preservation has never been more important.

There is a reason law abiding citizens from every socioeconomic, racial, religious, and political backgrounds are purchasing firearms and attending training. They see the limitations of our police departments response time and understand violent criminal acts can occur at a moment's notice. Responsible gun owners across the State of Maryland have qualified, per the state's standard, and received Wear and Carry Permits so they can protect themselves

and their family should a criminal attempt to victimize them.

The premise of the bill is the recent issuances of Wear and Carry licenses has made the State less safe. I would like to know how many crimes have been committed by Wear and Carry license holders. I presume that number is statistically insignificant.

I have had my Maryland Wear and Carry Permit for years. Well before the recent application spike we have seen since the Bruen decision. If SB1 passed I would no longer be able to transport, deliver, and demo firearms to police departments we do business with. I would no longer be able to conceal a defensive handgun when picking up estate collections across the region. I also would not be able to carry when making bank deposits. All of which are unreasonable restrictions especially given the sensitive items we handle.

SB1 would prevent law abiding citizens from exercising their 2nd amendment rights. It is not only irresponsible and unconstitutional, but also dangerous, and will put Maryland citizens in harm's way if passed.

I urge and unfavorable report