



Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

3358 Davidsonville Road • Davidsonville, MD 21035 • (410) 922-3426

February 7, 2023

To: Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

From: Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

Re: **Oppose SB 1 – Criminal Law - Wearing, Carrying, or Transporting Firearms - Restrictions (Gun Safety Act of 2023)**

On behalf of our Farm Bureau member families in Maryland, I submit this written testimony in opposition of SB 1. This bill prohibits a person from knowingly wearing, carrying, or transporting a firearm onto the real property of another person unless that person has given permission. This bill also prohibits a person from knowingly wearing, carrying, or transporting a firearm within 100 feet of a place of public accommodation.

This goes so far that it would be a crime to go up to a drive through window and get food or stop to get gas at a fuel pump if you are carrying your legal firearm even with a legal wear and carry permit. Making criminals out of law-abiding citizens just trying to protect them and their family is not the answer to trying to reduce violent crimes in Maryland. If anything, this is the exact opposite. This is a pro-criminal bill as this stacks the deck for violent criminals that won't have to worry about the victims they prey on being armed and only need to worry about the limited police force protecting our streets and neighborhoods.

MDFB Policy: We believe in and support the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which protects the right of the people to keep and bear arms.

We oppose any legislation that would further restrict the purchase and ownership by law-abiding citizens of firearms, handgun, long arm, autoloader, or manual loader.

MARYLAND FARM BUREAU RESPECTFULLY OPPOSES SB 1

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Colby Ferguson". The signature is stylized and includes a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Colby Ferguson
Director of Government Relations

For more information contact Colby Ferguson at (240) 578-0396