

Danielle Ortiz  
2415 Kemper Rd.  
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Dear Senate Judiciary Committee,

I'd like to share my concerns with SB1 currently as written because of a real-life experience that took place not too far from where you are sitting. My husband and I moved to the state of Maryland in October of 2016. On November 19<sup>th</sup> we were in the movie theater at the Annapolis Westfield Mall. While watching the movie, a group of men started assaulting a man in the food court below. An off-duty Secret Service agent was out with his family that night. He went over to try to help the man being beaten. One of the men pulled out a gun and shot the off-duty Secret Service agent and started running and shooting in the food court. The off-duty agent shot and wounded the perpetrator.

If that off-duty Secret Service agent was not allowed to conceal and carry, many people in that food court could have been seriously injured or killed, including his family. Fortunately for us, the gates to the movie theater were quickly brought down. Coming out of the theater and talking with the security guard to find out what had happened, just down the escalator, was frightening.

The men that attacked the individual would not have cared about any gun laws. I am positive they did not have a concealed carry permit. But the law-abiding Secret Service agent would have cared about the law. If this law that is being proposed today was in place then, many more people could have been seriously injured or killed that day, including my husband and I. Both my husband and I were wondering, "Where did we just move to?"

I have included a link verifying the events of that evening. [3 hurt in Annapolis mall shooting - Washington Times](#)

This bill would also make life much harder for those law-abiding citizens that have to carry a gun for their work to protect and serve us. On their way home, they couldn't stop to eat, go to the grocery store, etc. If you are transporting a gun anywhere, for any reason, you couldn't even stop at a gas station without breaking the law.

Please continue to allow law-abiding citizens to conceal carry, with a permit, in public and private owned property so that we can protect ourselves and others against those who don't have any regard for the law.

Sincerely,

Danielle Ortiz