

Judiciary Committee and the Honorable Senator Smith,

I am sending in a written testimony and wish to speak as well on Tuesday February 7th regarding the bills being heard at the Judicial proceedings.

First SB0001 Criminal Law – Wearing, Carrying, or Transporting Firearms- Restrictions (Gun Safety Act 2023)

When I read what this bill says, the determination that now all public places and private places are gun free zones I begin to realize that this law is to say that all citizens who follow the law do not matter. As you can imagine criminals do not follow the law so they will be very happy to have free reign to go where ever they please to use their illegal guns to commit crimes and go unpunished while doing so.

A call to the police when a criminal is pointing a gun at a law abiding citizen could be answered in 20 minutes or so if the police have the staff to do so. But think of the terror of a Mother with her children being held at gunpoint and being robbed or beaten, or worse just so a criminal can get what ever they want. Then if the mother survives, she will know that the criminal might get a slap on the wrist and be out of jail in hours if caught.

The number of Concealed Carry holder in this state is up substantially because it has become a scary place to live, not because the people just want to freely carry a gun. So many of the students I have taught are truly grateful to be able to provide the first response to a threat, rather than wait 20 minutes for some one to come when the threat has done what ever harm they want and is free on the streets to continue going after the unarmed. Everyone's lives matter, not just the criminals' lives.

I request an unfavorable review on SB0001

Second SB 0086 Rifles and Shotguns- Possession- Age Requirements. (Raise the Age Act of 2023)

This bill will definitely end Youth hunting. Maryland has a long tradition of hunting and to limit the possession of log guns to this age group will stop youth hunting completely. This will also stop any of the Youth shooting sports competitions in Maryland. Once again, I see the Legislation written to affect law abiding citizens. This bill is not even a factor in our state. Hunting for food has been passed down for generation – this bill will completely stop it. Please do not pass such a bill in Maryland.

I request an unfavorable review on SB0086

Next SB113 Civil Actions- Public Nuisances – Firearms Industry Members (Gun Industry Accountability Act 2023)

This bill seeks to undermine the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act (PLCAA), a federal law that shields firearms industry members from frivolous civil lawsuits. Criminals use a firearm is a criminal act – why would you blame someone who follows a huge amount of laws and regulations to participate in legal commerce with the acts perpetrated by a criminal violating the law. Convict criminals whose intention is to break the law – not the law-abiding citizen.

I request an unfavorable report on SB113.

Karla Mooney 21175 Marigold St Leonardtown MD 20650 Maryland State Leader of The DC Project

Maryland State Leader of Armed Woman of America, NRA Multi-discipline Firearms Instructor