

Attention House Judiciary Committee:

I, Cindy Collier, a lifelong resident, registered voter and certified handgun instructor in the state of Maryland respectfully request that you oppose SB1.

SB1 does nothing, absolutely nothing to reduce crime or violence in Maryland as it is unconstitutional and ineffective. It severely limits where a legal, law abiding permit holder is allowed to carry their firearm. Therefore significantly reducing their ability to defend themselves.

This bill limits the rights of citizens who do follow and obey the current numerous laws already in place that restrict a citizens ability to wear and carry a firearm in the state. It does NOTHING to prevent, or even hinder people who don't obey laws.

Citizens like myself are already required to attend and pass extensive training, background checks and fingerprinting to even be considered by the state for a wear and carry firearms permit. In addition we pay fees for training, for fingerprinting and more fees to the state of Maryland not just for the wear and carry permit but for every single time we purchase a firearm. This entire process already greatly restricts the ability of vulnerable individuals (women, disabled, low income, etc) to legally obtain a wear and carry permit for self defense.

SB1 further restricts citizens access by increasing fees and training requirements.

SB1 is totally useless in preventing criminals from obtaining and using firearms to commit crimes.

SB1 needs to be abolished. The **ONLY** thing this bill does is create many, many 'gun free' areas in Maryland that simple allow criminals (those citizens that don't obey laws) to easily pick their next helpless, defenseless victims. Criminals will basically be handed a list of safe places for them to commit crimes.

This one small part of the bill is what scares me the most. As I do fall under that vulnerable category who physically cannot run to escape physical injury I will be rendered defenseless in areas as common as my local restaurant or movie theatre (as it does serve alcohol). This alone is a huge blow to all law abiding citizens when it comes to self defense. Police Officers around our state work hard every day to protect us but they can't be everywhere all the time. You must allow law abiding citizens to protect themselves when needed! SB1 removes that right of self defense in many ways while doing nothing to prevent crime and violence.

Respectfully,
Cindy Collier