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I strongly oppose all provisions in SB0001, and urge you all to vote against its passing.

If any provision in SB0001 would have any significant effect on reducing gun violence, there could be a decent case to debate it. The unfortunate reality is that it does absolutely nothing to dissuade or punish the criminals willing to do violence upon their fellow Marylander before SB0001 was ever conceived. Its only real effect is to further restrict the good, peaceful, law-abiding Marylanders from one of the most effective methods of protecting themselves that was upheld in the Supreme Court *Bruen* decision. Similar laws in New York and New Jersey are already being fought in court on constitutionality grounds, and will cost the good residents of those states millions in taxpayer money to reach the inevitable outcome. I implore the Maryland legislators and executives to vote down SB0001 and focus on harsh prosecution of violent offenders instead.

I am a 10 year Army veteran, husband, father, and a good neighbor. I followed and will continue to follow all the requirements and rules associated with my Maryland Wear and Carry Permit, and I take safety extremely seriously with my firearms. This bill would negatively affect me while having no effect on a criminal wishing to do me, my family, or my community harm. The law abiding Marylanders that carry for their own protection are categorically not committing the crimes that supporters of SB0001 may believe it would prevent. By definition, the criminals are not following the law, and putting one more on the books that only the good people of Maryland will be restricted by does nothing to protect anyone.

To uphold our Constitutionally protected rights, to prevent an expensive and embarrassing loss in court, to signal trust and stewardship in your fellow good Marylanders, and to do the right thing, I strongly urge you all to vote down SB0001 and to reject future iterations of the bill.