

Monday, March 27, 2023

SB 0001

Hello, I am Dennis Robinson, a member of Onyx Sharpshooters, from the local Prince George's County chapter of the National African American Gun Association (NAAGA).

I would like to express my disappointment with this bill (SB 0001). This bill is unconstitutional to all Marylanders. It goes against the spirit and intended practice of the 2nd Amendment. I am vehemently opposed to this bill SB 0001.

While the Senator who is sponsoring this bill *claims* to be doing so for “**public safety**”. If this bill becomes law. It will make all of Maryland an even LESS safe state. Not only are those who support and those who oppose this bill watching this bill to see if it becomes state law but so are the criminals. They are waiting to see if their field of potential victims is broadened by this bill becoming a state law. Passing this bill would only disarm law-abiding citizens who conceal carry, and train to protect themselves and their loved ones. Consider the fact that passing this bill will not just make them feel less safe, but they will be less safe. The sponsoring Senator also made it quite clear that he has an irrational fear of and lack of knowledge of firearms.

Secondly, those who favor this bill only do so emotionally, not based on facts. When they speak of themselves, family members, and/or loved ones being injured or killed by violence committed with a gun, they **NEVER** say that the culprit of said crime was a Concealed Carry Permit holder. That is conflation. Gun violence and responsible firearms ownership are two different topics. Concealed Carry Permit holders are NOT the problem. Concealed Carry Permit holders and criminals are NOT the same nor do those two separate groups operate on the same principles. Law-abiding citizens who Conceal Carry would also like to take guns out of the criminal's hands. However, disarming and criminalizing law-abiding citizens does not accomplish that goal nor does it make our State any safer. Again, it puts the law-abiding citizen, who would ordinarily be able to protect themselves family members and love one with their handgun in a vulnerable, unsafe condition.

Respectfully Yours

Dennis Robinson