



March 29, 2023

Senate Bill 1

**Criminal Law - Wearing, Carrying, or Transporting Firearms - Restrictions
(Gun Safety Act of 2023)**

House Judiciary Committee

Position: FAVORABLE

Anne Arundel County **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill 1 – Criminal Law - Wearing, Carrying, or Transporting Firearms - Restrictions (Gun Safety Act of 2023). This Bill would prohibit a person from knowingly wearing, carrying, or transporting a firearm onto certain locations without express permission, and prohibit a person from knowingly wearing, carrying, or transporting a firearm within 100 feet of a place of certain specified locations.

Gun violence is a public health crisis in our county, state, and country. Nationally, Maryland has the 35th highest rate of gun deaths.¹ The rate of gun deaths in Maryland increased 6% from 2008 to 2017, compared to a 17% increase over this same time period nationwide.² According to the Anne Arundel County Police Department's ARS/RMS reporting system, in 2017 and 2018 the most common incidents involving a gun were due to wear/carry/transport law violations that involved a gun, robbery, carjacking, or home invasion involving a gun. Reducing the prevalence of guns in public is a critical component in the overall strategy to reduce gun violence and protect the lives of all of our residents.

For all of these reasons, I respectfully request a **FAVORABLE** report on Senate Bill 1.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steuart Pittman".

Steuart Pittman
County Executive

¹<https://everytownresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Every-State-Fact-Sheet-2.0-042720Maryland.pdf>.

²<https://everytownresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Every-State-Fact-Sheet-2.0-042720Maryland.pdf>