

Testimony of Art Novotny in OPPOSITION to HB824
“Possession and Permits to Carry, Wear, and Transport a Handgun”

Maryland has long used fees (such as HQL, HGP, 77r, etc.) to discriminate against the poor who seek the civil right of self defense, and this bill carries on that tradition. I certainly do not consider myself particularly “affluent,” but I will find a way to afford the new fees. Many may not.

It does not seem fair to those in less fortunate socioeconomic situations whose lives may actually be more at risk to put up even more financial hurdles, but that seems to be the Fee-state way.

It is not my way, and I ask for an unfavorable report.

Thank you,
Art Novotny
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