



Senate Bill 127
Maryland Center for School Safety – Firearm Detection Platforms – Evaluation
Informational Only

Each year, our nation's schools are entrusted to provide a safe environment for approximately 55 million elementary and secondary school students in public, private, parochial, and independent schools. Families and communities expect schools to keep their children safe from threats – no task is more important than creating a secure learning environment for America's youth. The Maryland State Rifle & Pistol Association (MSRPA) wishes to commend you on your efforts to provide and enhance security for Maryland's students and in particular, SB 127 Maryland Firearm Detection Platform Act.

May we also introduce **School Shield**, the National Rifle Association's commitment to protecting Maryland students and staff.

School Shield was introduced in 2012 as an initiative focused on improving school security to help prevent national tragedies at schools. Recognizing that there is no one-size-fits-all approach, School Shield addresses the many facets of school security, including best practices in infrastructure, technology, personnel, training, and policy. A cornerstone of School Shield is the Security Assessor Training, which seeks to facilitate a partnership between schools and local stakeholders by teaching them how to analyze a school's physical security, communications systems, and overall preparedness.

A proven and effective way to enhance security in schools is to conduct a comprehensive vulnerability assessment. The School Shield's Security Assessor Training provides an all-inclusive approach to analyzing a school's climate, physical security, communications systems, and overall preparedness. A vulnerability assessment highlights and reinforces what a school is doing right to keep students and staff safe and highlights potential areas requiring improvement. To see reviews and comments about School Shield's assessor training from previous community stakeholders, please link to:

<https://nraschoolshield.org/training>.

The School Shield professional consultation is provided at no charge. Through grants from The NRA Foundation, funds can be made available for schools to complete projects and activities that improve school security. Please encourage your communities to learn more about real solutions at <https://www.nationalschoolshield.org/> or by calling 844-467-7723.

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