

Please **UNFAVORABLE** SB475  
Center for Firearm Violence Prevention – Establishment

Maryland had the 3rd highest robbery rate in the country in 2022. [1] Well, if that robbery didn't involve a firearm I guess the victims are out of luck.

Maryland's own crime dashboard shows that in 2022, there were over 39,000 crimes against a person that didn't involve a firearm. There were 3,629 incidents that did use a firearm.[2] So, think of it this way; if crimes against people were fingers, 9 of them would NOT involve a firearm but only your one little pinky represents those involving a firearm. Why is the 10 TIMES bigger problem of violence in general being ignored?

There were 1,888 rapes in 2020 in Maryland.[3] Oh well, this center only cares if a firearm was used so I guess that number will just be ignored. Also, using these same Maryland statistics, over 15,000 aggravated assaults happened in 2020. Again, oh well if a firearm wasn't used.

Lets go back to those nearly 2,000 rapes in Maryland. That's WAY more than the number of firearm murders committed in Maryland. Why isn't there a dedicated rape prevention center bill instead? This bill is nothing more than ideological driven virtue signaling. Why do we need taxpayer dollars funneled to pay for a bunch of desk sitters when we already have established "violence prevention centers"; they're called the police force and they actual get out of their plush offices and prevent violence instead of writing about it.

Does this center have an expiration date? Of course not. It will live forever as yet another part of the growing State bureaucracy. Maybe the selectees could "work from home"; not like that will reduce their productivity.

Can this center's funding be interpreted as just an avenue to funnel money to political allies? Just something to ponder.

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January 27, 2024

[1] <https://www.statista.com/statistics/232564/robbery-rate-in-the-us-by-state/>

[2] <https://mdsp.maryland.gov/Pages/Dashboards/NIBRSCrimeDashboard.aspx>

[3] <https://goccp.maryland.gov/data-dashboards/crime-dashboard/>