My name is Mark Schneider I am the Vice President of the Maryland Licensed Firearm Dealers Association.

Our Organization opposes SB 488 as it threatens our members' ability to stay in business.

There are many problems with this Bill. Data does not support the claim that Maryland Licensed Firearms Dealers are the source of the reckless, illegal actions of criminals.

We are a highly regulated industry abiding by both federal and state statutes governing the sale of our products. No licensed dealer knowingly sells to the criminal market as Federal and state law already prohibits this with severe civil and criminal penalties.

Vague Terms such as "unreasonable sale", "reasonable safety measures", "deceptive act or practice", "reasonable controls and procedures", and "false advertising", are either not defined or not clearly explained and are thus unacceptable terms.

This Bill would open every licensed dealer to frivolous, punitive litigation and if enacted into law would make it impossible to obtain insurance. Without insurance no dealer could stay in business.

Dealers should not be held liable for the legal and lawful sale of firearms. Those who commit illegal acts with firearms should. And we support stricter penalties for those who illegally use firearms.

I Request an Unfavorable Report