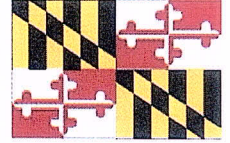




CLYDE BOATWRIGHT
STATE PRESIDENT

Maryland State Lodge
FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

8302 COVE ROAD, BALTIMORE, MD 21222



KENNY SCHUBERT
SECRETARY

EARL KRATSCH
TREASURER

February 5, 2024

HB329 - Public Safety – Handgun Permits – Expiration and Renewal Periods for Retired Law Enforcement Officer

Dear Chairman Clippinger and Distinguished Members of the Judiciary Committee,

The Maryland State Fraternal Order of Police **SUPPORTS House Bill 329 – Public Safety – Handgun Permits – Expiration and Renewal Periods for Retired Law Enforcement Officer**

House Bill 329 will create a new provision in the handgun permit section of Public Safety Article 5-309. This provision will extend the time limit of a handgun permit from the current 2 years (and for certain specified permits 3 years) to 5 years for a handgun permit that is issued to a retired Law Enforcement Officer, who retired in good standing from an Agency within the State of Maryland. This new 5-year time limit would also apply to any successive renewal of their permit.

This bill would allow our Retired Members that desire to obtain a handgun permit to renew their permit at a more reasonable time given their service and training which are well above the standards that the average person seeking a gun permit would have. This extra experience, knowledge and training should be acknowledged by allowing retired Law Enforcement Officers the ability to renew at extended periods of time. This change would also have a positive impact on the unit that processes handgun permits as this longer time limit would lead to a lower volume of handgun permits that would have to be processed each year.

A **FAVORABLE** vote on **HB 329** will send a positive message to all police officers (active and retired) in the State.

On behalf of the more than 20,000 Courageous Men and Women of the Maryland Fraternal Order of Police we thank you for your support and ask for your **FAVORABLE** vote on **House Bill 329 - Public Safety – Handgun Permits – Expiration and Renewal Periods for Retired Law Enforcement Officer.**

Angelo L. Consoli Jr,
2nd Vice President, FOP, Maryland State Lodge
President, FOP Lodge 89, Prince George’s County