

HB 546 Handgun Permits – Accidental Discharge & Training Requirements

UNFAVORABLE

The Maryland State Rifle & Pistol Association (MSRPA) opposes HB 546. This bill would require a person who holds a handgun permit and accidentally discharges a firearm to self-report and register within 90 days for a "certain" firearms safety training course, completed within six months of the incident, or their permit would be revoked.

The MSRPA is the official National Rifle Association state organization for Maryland. The MSRPA's mission is to defend your rights in Maryland, support training in firearm safety and shooting skills through its affiliated clubs, and sponsor and sanction local competition throughout the state.

Injury and death from accidental discharges are tragic. Some accidents probably happen to decent gun owners who make a mistake. The MSRPA is dedicated to promoting marksmanship and safe firearm handling through affiliated clubs, statewide programs, and the NRA Education and Training Division programs, and supports the state's efforts to that end.

Other accidental discharges occur when criminals are committing crimes. These individuals will surely not self-report accidents. This bill will not prevent violent crime.

The bill is unconstitutional, as the 5th Amendment protects against self-incrimination.

The MSRPA respectfully requests an UNFAVORABLE report on HB 546.

Cathy S. Wright MSRPA VP, Legislative Affairs <u>cwright@msrpa.org</u> <u>http://www.msrpa.org</u>