

OFFICERS

ELIZABETH GREEN
President

ROBIN WEIMAN
1st Vice President

AMALIA HONICK

BENJAMIN ROSENBERG

RABBI STEVEN SCHWARTZ

RABBI JONATHAN SEIDEMANN

MELANIE SHAPIRO

RABBI ANDREW BUSCH
Past President

HOWARD LIBIT
Executive Director

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Adat Chaim Congregation
American Jewish Committee
Americans for Peace Now
 Baltimore Chapter
American Israel Public Affairs Committee
American Red Magen David for Israel
American Zionist Movement
Amit Women
Association of Reform Zionists of America
Baltimore Board of Rabbis
Baltimore Hebrew Congregation
Baltimore Jewish Green and Just Alliance
Baltimore Men's ORT
Baltimore Zionist District
Beth Am Congregation
Beth El Congregation
Beth Israel Congregation
Beth Shalom Congregation of
 Howard County
Beth Tfiloh Congregation
B'nai B'rith, Chesapeake Bay Region
B'nai Israel Congregation
B'nai Jacob Shaarei Zion Congregation
Bolton Street Synagogue
Chevra Ahavas Chesed, Inc.
Chevrei Tzedek Congregation
Chizuk Amuno Congregation
Congregation Beit Tikvah
Congregation Tiferes Yisroel
Federation of Jewish Women's
 Organizations of Maryland
Hadassah
Har Sinai - Oheb Shalom Congregation
J Street
Jewish Federation of Howard County
Jewish Labor Committee
Jewish War Veterans
Jewish War Veterans, Ladies Auxiliary
Jewish Women International
Jews For Judaism
Moses Montefiore Anshe Emenah
 Hebrew Congregation
National Council of Jewish Women
Ner Tamid Congregation
Rabbinical Council of America
Religious Zionists of America
Shaarei Tfiloh Congregation
Shomrei Emenah Congregation
Suburban Orthodox Congregation
Temple Beth Shalom
Temple Isaiah
Zionist Organization of America
 Baltimore District

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

**House Bill 869 – Public Safety - Firearm Background Checks,
Victim Notification, and the Maryland State Police Gun Center**

Judiciary Committee

February 21, 2024

Support

Background: HB 869 would require anyone in Maryland (likely State Police and/or regulated firearm dealers who conduct background checks) to notify the State Police Gun Center of a background check denial of a prohibited person. The State Police Gun Center would then notify the local law enforcement agency within 24 hours, and that agency would then be responsible for notifying any victim of a final protective order of the background check denial. In this way, victims can be informed of their abuser's potential intentions and take necessary precautions.

Written Comments: The Baltimore Jewish Council represents The Associated Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore and its agencies. One of these agencies is CHANA, a non-profit organization that provides crisis intervention, legal services, and counseling to community members of all ages facing domestic, sexual, or financial abuse, women. People in situations of abuse CHANA because they want to know their options and rights. What underlies all domestic violence/abuse is power and control. Our agencies' clients experience physical, sexual, psychological, financial, technological, and spiritual abuse. By allowing them the ability to take back some control, we are empowering these victims. Ensuring that someone who has received a final protective order is notified that their abuser tried to purchase a gun may save their lives.

For these reasons we as for a favorable report on HB869.

The Baltimore Jewish Council, a coalition of central Maryland Jewish organizations and congregations, advocates at all levels of government, on a variety of social welfare, economic and religious concerns, to protect and promote the interests of the Associated Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore, its agencies and the Greater Baltimore Jewish community.

OFFICERS

ELIZABETH GREEN
President

ROBIN WEIMAN
1st Vice President

AMALIA HONICK

BENJAMIN ROSENBERG

RABBI STEVEN SCHWARTZ

RABBI JONATHAN SEIDEMANN

MELANIE SHAPIRO

RABBI ANDREW BUSCH
Past President

HOWARD LIBIT
Executive Director

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Adat Chaim Congregation
American Jewish Committee
Americans for Peace Now
 Baltimore Chapter
American Israel Public Affairs Committee
American Red Magen David for Israel
American Zionist Movement
Amit Women
Association of Reform Zionists of America
Baltimore Board of Rabbis
Baltimore Hebrew Congregation
Baltimore Jewish Green and Just Alliance
Baltimore Men's ORT
Baltimore Zionist District
Beth Am Congregation
Beth El Congregation
Beth Israel Congregation
Beth Shalom Congregation of
 Howard County
Beth Tfiloh Congregation
B'nai B'rith, Chesapeake Bay Region
B'nai Israel Congregation
B'nai Jacob Shaarei Zion Congregation
Bolton Street Synagogue
Chevra Ahavas Chesed, Inc.
Chevrei Tzedek Congregation
Chizuk Amuno Congregation
Congregation Beit Tikvah
Congregation Tiferes Yisroel
Federation of Jewish Women's
 Organizations of Maryland
Hadassah
Har Sinai - Oheb Shalom Congregation
J Street
Jewish Federation of Howard County
Jewish Labor Committee
Jewish War Veterans
Jewish War Veterans, Ladies Auxiliary
Jewish Women International
Jews For Judaism
Moses Montefiore Anshe Emenah
 Hebrew Congregation
National Council of Jewish Women
Ner Tamid Congregation
Rabbinical Council of America
Religious Zionists of America
Shaarei Tfiloh Congregation
Shomrei Emenah Congregation
Suburban Orthodox Congregation
Temple Beth Shalom
Temple Isaiah
Zionist Organization of America
 Baltimore District