

## **SB0180**

My name is Galen Muhammad and I am the Maryland State Director of the National African American Gun Association.

I stand in support of this bill with a friendly amendment.

It is a well proven fact that concealed carry, non-law enforcement citizens are as law-abiding as law enforcement officers, if not more. In his book, "**Gun Control Myths**", John Lott states that "*American handgun permit holders are extremely law abiding*" and "*concealed carry permit holders rarely get in trouble with their concealed carry guns*".<sup>1</sup> In the same book, he states that "*Concealed carry permit holders are convicted at 1/6<sup>th</sup> the rate that law enforcement officers are*".<sup>2</sup>

In his book, "**More Guns, Less Crime**", Lott also states that, "*out of every 100,000 permit holders, only a couple of them have had their permits revoked for a firearms-related violation. Most of these violations are trivial offenses.*"<sup>3</sup>

There is no **reason** to **not** include **all** concealed carry permit holders with this validation extension period for LEOs. Last year, this legislature voted to **increase** the fees **and** frequency of renewal for the Constitutional right to bear arms while *reducing* the validation period. It would also be right and more appropriate to **increase** the validity period to 5 years *instead* of its currently decreased 2 years.

I ask that this bill, with the **above** suggested friendly amendment, receive a favorable review.

---

<sup>1</sup> Gun Control Myths, by John Lott <https://www.gvpedia.org/gun-myths/no-crimes/#:~:text=Lott%20further%20claims%20that%20police,capita%20than%20the%20general%20population>.

<sup>2</sup> Gun Control Myths, by John Lott <https://www.gvpedia.org/gun-myths/no-crimes/#:~:text=Lott%20further%20claims%20that%20police,capita%20than%20the%20general%20population>.

<sup>3</sup> More Guns, Less Crime, by John Lott <https://www.gvpedia.org/gun-myths/no-crimes/#:~:text=Lott%20further%20claims%20that%20police,capita%20than%20the%20general%20population>.