House Judiciary Committee Maryland State House 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401

March 3, 2025

RE: House Bill 1287 - UNFAVORABLE

House Bill 916 - UNFAVORABLE House Bill 982 - FAVORABLE

Dear Chair Clippinger and Committee Members,

I am writing in opposition of House Bill 1287, which would ban so called "convertible pistols" and House Bill 916 which would ban transporting a firearm on public transportation. And in favor of House Bill 982.

Once again, an unfair burden is attempting to be placed on the backs of law abiding citizens. A criminal will commit crime, by sheer definition of the word.

Proposed House Bill 1287 would severely limit the type of semi-automatic handgun that could legally be purchased, sold, and carried. Those converting these types of handguns ARE NOT your law abiding citizens. Therefore, creating a ban will have ZERO effect crime and gun violence. I ask you to vote **unfavorable** to **HB 1287**.

Proposed House Bill 916 discriminates against the law abiding citizens who need to access public transportation in their day to day lives. Those who do not have their own vehicle for traveling throughout the state would be made to suffer and YOU are placing their safety at risk. Again, criminals do not care about the law. This bill will DO NOTHING to curb any violence on public transportation. I ask you to vote **unfavorable** to **HB 916**.

Proposed House Bill 982 making "gun theft" a felony, should have been placed into law a long time ago. Per CAP's Gun Theft Analysis\*, completed in March of 2020, almost 16,000 firearms were stolen between 2012 and 2017, just in the state of Maryland. Imagine how many lives could have been saved if these individuals were charged with a felony and served jail time instead of being released right back out onto the street. I ask you to vote **favorable** to **HB 982**.

Respectfully submitted,

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<sup>\*</sup>https://www.americanprogress.org/article/gun-theft-united-states-state-state-analysis/