

**Mr. Chairman, Honorable Representatives, and interested attendees**

**I am Retired First Sgt. Jeannie Mastronardi of the Maryland State Police and President of the Alumni Association. With over 30 years of service and experience with the department, with 5 years working in the Licensing Division, I am asking for your positive consideration for HB 171 Handgun Permits.**

**Currently a Maryland Handgun Permit expires in 2 years for the initial permit, then 3 years for subsequent permits. With the renewal process, a full investigation is completed on every applicant whether initial or renewal. These investigations are completed by members of the Maryland State Police Licensing Division. I want to discuss financial and common sense reasons for increasing the renewal process from 3 to 5 years.**

**-Financial Reduction**

Paperwork reduction, decrease in overtime expenditures by employees assigned to the MSP, which would then

Re-direct employees to focus on new applicants, running criminal histories, follow up on dis-approvals and other duties as directed by the Commander of the Unit

**Common sense**

Those retired officers that currently have permits are your neighbor next door. They tend to be the one that is part of the neighborhood watch, observe the suspicious car on your street, perform duties such as church security, even transporting the offering after the church service to the bank

Chaperone for an after school event

Volunteer security at local carnivals, fairs, or parades

Retired police officers are often involved in various nonprofit activities where they continue to give back to the community they once served

We can document numerous occasions where retired law enforcement come to the aid of our patrol officer on the street

I am not here for a good conduct medal, but I respectfully ask for your positive recommendation to help progress this legislation forward.

Respectfully and Thank you all for your service to our citizens.

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**Jeannie Mastronardi**

**President**

Maryland State Police Alumni Association

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