

Please **AMEND** HB 171
Public Safety – Handgun Permits –
Expiration and Renewal Periods for Retired Law Enforcement Officer

While this bill commendably simplifies the handgun permit renewal process for retired law enforcement officers, I believe it can be made more equitable and supportive of all the citizens of Maryland, not just an elite few.

The bill limits extended renewal periods and fee exemptions to retired law enforcement officers, excluding other citizens with comparable training and experience. It risks creating perceptions of preferential treatment by not extending similar benefits to civilians who exercise their right to bear arms responsibly. I therefore request these following amendments.

1. Expand eligibility to ALL citizens who have already demonstrated firearms proficiency and safety.
2. Uniform Renewal Periods: Allow all permit holders to benefit from the five-year renewal period to promote fairness, equity and paperwork processing efficiency.

These adjustments would not only enhance the fairness and inclusivity of HB171 but also reaffirm Maryland's commitment to respecting and protecting the basic human rights for all citizens.



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