



Testimony in Opposition of  
Public Safety - Handgun Permits - Expiration and Renewal Periods for  
Retired Law Enforcement Officer  
SB 180/HB 171  
Executive Director Karen Herren  
Marylanders to Prevent Gun Violence

January 27, 2025

Dear Chair Clippinger, Vice-Chair Bartlett, and distinguished members of the committee,

Marylanders to Prevent Gun Violence (MPGV) is a statewide organization dedicated to reducing gun deaths and injuries in Maryland. We urge the committee for an **UNFAVORABLE report on House Bill 171**.

Law enforcement is a vital component of any state's public safety plan, and we acknowledge the sacrifices made by individuals pursuing a career in law enforcement. However, it is crucial to recognize that law enforcement officers are not inherently a class that must be exempt from regular scrutiny. MPGV opposes any efforts to extend the time between renewal periods for permits for anyone. This body should maintain the current renewal period of 3 years to ensure that individuals failing to uphold required standards are identified and removed from the system. Retired law enforcement officers should not be granted immunity from the need to maintain these standards.

MPGV urges the committee to vote **UNFAVORABLY on SB HB 171**. We believe that preserving the current renewal period is vital for upholding the standards necessary for responsible firearm ownership.