

**House Bill 0387**  
**Comprehensive Community Safety Funding Act**  
**Unfavorable**

Good afternoon. My name is Kierstyn Rader, I'm 15 and have been in youth shooting sports for six years with the Howard County 4-H Bullseye Club and Stemmers Run Rifle and Pistol Club's Junior Rifle Team. I oppose House Bill 387 because it will severely impact youth shooting sports by making them unaffordable.

This bill increases taxes on firearms, impacting law-abiding citizens, not criminals. While it exempts "individuals" for competition shooting, this hurts youth clubs. Minors like me can't buy firearms; our parents do. Since parents aren't the ones competing, they'll still be taxed. Our clubs, also not "individuals," will face extra taxes on firearm purchases.

Our growing club needs more firearms. This tax will force us to buy fewer, impacting our ability to provide consistent equipment. Shooting the same rifle each week is crucial for developing accuracy. Kids share rifles now, constantly readjusting sights, which discourages new shooters when their scores fluctuate. Dedicated club rifles improve consistency and allow coaches to effectively guide progress.

Youth shooting sports offer vital benefits: safety training, discipline, skill development, personal growth, and teamwork. Our club already struggles with costs. This tax could

force us to create a waitlist. Grant funding is decreasing, and fundraising is harder. I work 40-50 hours at our fair booth to raise money for equipment. It's discouraging to know my hard work might just cover this new tax instead of benefiting our club directly.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Kierstyn Rader

February 13, 2025