



Washington County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Inc.

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Honorable Members of the
Maryland Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Md. 21401

**Subject: SB-0677 Public Safety-Handgun Permits-Firearms Training Course
SUPPORT**

Dear Honorable Senators:

On March 03, 2026, the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee will be hearing the advantages and disadvantages of **SB-0677 (Public Safety-Handgun Permits-Firearms Training Course)**.

My name is Joe Winter, and I am the current President of the Washington County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Inc. Our organization includes multiple hunting clubs and sportsmen's associations throughout Washington County. As President, I collaborate with the leaders of these organizations to support and represent the sportsmen and sportswomen across Washington County. I have particular expertise in the subject matter of this bill due to my experience as a former Commander of the Firearms Training Unit of the United States Park Police, a Federal Law Enforcement Agency Headquartered in Washington, D.C. of which I am now proudly retired.

The proposed bill acknowledges the critical need for individuals who wish to wear and carry a handgun to be equipped with foundational skills and essential knowledge. By emphasizing instruction in proper techniques, the legislation ensures that those pursuing a handgun permit are thoroughly prepared in the core aspects of safe and responsible handgun handling.

Together with the sportsmen and sportswomen of Washington County, I strongly urge you to support and vote favorably on HB-1063.

Respectfully,

Joe Winter
President
Washington County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Inc.

"Sportsmen & Conservationists, working together..."