



Contact:
Maryland NORML
Luke Jones, Director
Luke.MDNORML@gmail.com

750 Thayer Ave.
Silver Spring, MD 20910
(202) 285-3199

Submitted to:
House Judiciary Committee
Annapolis, MD – February 2, 2026

Testimony from the Maryland State Chapter of the
National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML)

SUPPORT SB0365
(Firearms – Right to Purchase, Own, Possess, and Carry)


Maryland NORML has no paid staff – we are entirely energized by a core group of citizen volunteers and more than 5,000 other Marylanders committed to ending marijuana prohibition and establishing a regulated cannabis commercial market for adults. I have never had any stake or investment of any kind in any cannabis enterprise, nor does anyone in my family, and I have never received any fee or remuneration for consulting with any cannabis enterprise. As an organization, we have worked to reform state and federal marijuana laws for more than 50 years.

We strongly support House Bill 3656, which addresses a well-documented constitutional and legal defect in laws that treat cannabis consumers as unfit to exercise Second Amendment rights. As NORML explained in its recent amicus brief before the U.S. Supreme Court, there is no historical tradition of disarming individuals who use cannabis; regulations have not imposed broad, status-based prohibitions.

Categorical disarmament of cannabis users is therefore a departure from both constitutional history and contemporary public policy. Cannabis has been present in American society since the Founding era, was widely used in the nineteenth century, and today is authorized for medical and responsible adult use. Cannabis use is not inherently criminal or dangerous; Congress has routinely protected state medical cannabis programs from federal interference.

HB 0365 does not shield unlawful behavior, excuse firearm misuse, or limit the State’s authority to regulate firearms based on conduct, impairment, or demonstrated risk. This approach aligns with the Supreme Court’s direction that firearm restrictions must be grounded in historical tradition and individualized assessments of danger, not broad assumptions about status.

HB 0365 promotes legal coherence, constitutional fidelity, and respect for Maryland’s own medical cannabis framework. Maryland NORML urges a favorable report.

Respectfully submitted, 
M. Luke Jones, Maryland NORML