

Hello. My name is Lisa Siano. I live in Columbia, MD.

I am writing to urge a favorable report on HB 1608. This bill is an important tool in the mission to prevent unintentional child and teen deaths due to unsafe gun storage. Too many children and teens die or are injured due to the failure of gun owners to properly secure their guns safely. Children get access to unsecured guns and injure or kill themselves or others. School shooters obtain the weapons for mass shootings because someone in their household or a friend's household failed to safely secure a gun properly. The risk is not only unintentional deaths and injuries but also stolen guns that are used in crime and suicides for which the death and injury toll is higher in this country than in any other developed nation.

HB 1608 will require gun owners and authorized users to safely secure their guns properly. Passage of this bill will prevent countless deaths and injuries of children, teens and others in Maryland. Therefore, I urge a favorable report.

Thank you.