

Please find **FAVORABLE** HB 1417  
Public Safety – Handgun Permit Requirement – Repeal (Maryland Constitutional Carry Act)

This bill restores a fundamental principle: law-abiding adults should not need prior government permission to exercise a constitutional right. HB 1417 repeals the handgun permit requirement while preserving critical safeguards. It maintains prohibitions for those under 21, for carry on school property, for carrying with criminal intent, and for carrying while intoxicated.

This is not deregulation of criminal conduct. It is deregulation of lawful citizens.

More than half of the states already recognize constitutional carry so this bill would bring Maryland in line with national trends. Maryland's current system imposes onerous financial, time and administrative barriers that disproportionately burdens working-class residents. Removing the permit requirement restores equal access while keeping penalties in place for misuse.

**HB 1417 respects both public safety and constitutional liberty.** For these reasons, I respectfully request a favorable report.

Thomas J. Kasuba (registered Democrat)  
2917 Rosemar Drive  
Ellicott City, MD 21043-3332  
tomkasubamd@netscape.net  
301-688-8543 (day)  
February 21, 2026