

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2022 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
First Reader

Senate Bill 667

(Senator McCray)

Judicial Proceedings

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Baltimore Police Department - Firearm Destruction, Seizure, and Recovery -  
Reporting Requirement

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This bill requires, by March 1, 2023, and annually thereafter, the Baltimore City Police Department (BPD) to report to the Baltimore City Delegation to the General Assembly regarding the firearms destroyed, seized, or recovered by BPD during the preceding calendar year, as specified. If BPD does not submit the required report, the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services (GOCPYVS) is prohibited from making any grant funds available to BPD. **The bill terminates September 30, 2027.**

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** GOCPYVS can handle the bill's requirements with existing resources. Assuming BPD submits the required report, the bill has no effect on State finances; however, if BPD does not submit the required report and GOCPYVS is prohibited from making grant funds available to BPD, general fund expenditures decrease significantly. Revenues are not affected.

**Local Effect:** **Baltimore City did not respond to repeated requests for information regarding the fiscal effect of this bill.** However, the Department of Legislative Services advises that city expenditures likely increase minimally for the city to complete the required report. If BPD does not submit the required report and GOCPYVS is prohibited from making grant funds available to BPD, city grant revenues and corresponding expenditures decrease significantly.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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## Analysis

**Current Law:** Chapter 491 of 2020 requires the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) to (1) study information regarding “firearm crimes” committed in the State since August 1, 2015, as specified; (2) identify specified information for each 9-1-1 request for emergency assistance involving a firearm crime; (3) study information regarding “firearm injuries and fatalities” occurring in the State since July 1, 2020, as specified; and (4) with regard to “crime firearms,” study, report, compile, collect, and gather specified information. All State and local law enforcement agencies and other governmental units must provide OAG with any and all information necessary to complete the study. OAG must report to the Governor and the General Assembly, by specified dates, specified findings and conclusions regarding firearm crimes committed, firearm injuries and fatalities occurring, and crime firearms recovered.

OAG must report to the Governor and the General Assembly:

- by December 1, 2020, its findings and conclusions regarding firearm crimes committed, firearm injuries and fatalities occurring, and crime firearms recovered from August 1, 2015, through July 31, 2019;
- by December 1, 2021, its [findings and conclusions](#) regarding firearm crimes committed, firearm injuries and fatalities occurring, and crime firearms recovered from August 1, 2019, through July 31, 2020; and
- by December 1, 2022, its findings and conclusions regarding firearm crimes committed, firearm injuries and fatalities occurring, and crime firearms recovered from August 1, 2020, through July 31, 2021.

Chapter 651 of 2021 extended the termination date of Chapter 491 of 2020 (from December 31, 2022, to December 31, 2024) and extended OAG’s reporting requirements by two years. In addition, Chapter 651 (1) authorizes OAG to access information from the District Court, as specified; (2) authorizes OAG to delegate the review and research undertaken under provisions of the Act to a recognized research institution located in the State; (3) extends, by one year, specified dates by which OAG must report to the Governor and the General Assembly specified findings and conclusions regarding firearm crimes committed, firearm injuries and fatalities occurring, and crime firearms recovered; and (4) requires an additional report with similar specified information. The requirements terminate December 31, 2024.

“Crime firearm” means a firearm that is (1) used in the commission of a crime of violence, as defined in § 5-101 of the Public Safety Article or (2) recovered by law enforcement in connection with illegal firearm possession, transportation, or transfer. “Firearm crime” means a crime of violence, as defined in § 5-101 of the Public Safety Article, involving the

use of a firearm. “Firearm injury and fatality” means an injury or fatality caused by a firearm.

Chapter 335 of 2019 required GOCPYVS to gather, study, and compile specified information regarding crime firearms in the State. The Department of State Police was required to provide GOCPYVS with any and all information necessary to complete the study. GOCPYVS reported [its findings](#) in 2021. Based on the Maryland Gun Center’s database, there were a total of 169 in-state crime firearms recovered from 17 jurisdictions between January 1, 2019, and December 31, 2019. Nearly 40% (67) of the crime firearms were recovered in Baltimore City.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Designated Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services; Office of the Attorney General; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 20, 2022  
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