

Testimony against Bill SB0958

Hello ladies and gentlemen, my name is Nick DeTello, I'm a Software Engineer, an Eagle Scout, and I've been a resident of Maryland my entire life. I chose to settle down, buy a house, and start a family here in distant Carroll County.

I did so with every intention of being able to enjoy my collection of firearms, protect my family, and pass it down to my children, and their children. The reason I'm here today is that this bill would prevent me from doing that. This bill would criminalize the American dream that I've sought after so passionately.

As an enthusiast I've invested serious time, money, research, and labor to be able to manufacture my own firearms, long before this bill was published. I spent many days milling, filing, and sanding my last creation, like a form of art. I built it meticulously and tested it at a dedicated firearms facility. I followed all existing gun laws transporting it to and from the range, and I dedicated time practicing with it to ensure that I could safely use it in an emergency. Do I sound like a criminal? Because that's what this bill is describing me as; somehow this piece of paper makes me a criminal for possessing my own property.

I don't understand how this isn't an ex post facto law; this bill will fine me, and jail me, for an act that was perfectly legal, and federally protected. It will rob me of my property, it will rob me of time away from my beautiful wife and family, the community I uphold, and my descendant's endowment. When you're discussing this bill, I want you to picture my face behind bars, and I want you to picture my family visiting me in an orange jumpsuit. Meanwhile the real criminals are out there with firearms they either stole or got through a straw sale (both illegal acts), then filed the serial numbers off. Don't make laws restricting responsible gun owners like myself; enforce the laws on the books and make harsher punishments for the actual criminals. Thank you for your time.