



LEAD  | LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION & ACTION DELIVERS

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Testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 4

“Public Safety – Rifles and Shotguns – Secondary Transactions”

TO: Delegate Luke Clippinger, Chair, Delegate Atterbeary, Vice Chair, and other members of the House Judiciary Committee

FROM: Allison Berkowitz, Legislative Director of LEAD (Legislative Education & Action Delivers)

My husband says he could spell his name in bullets before he could write it; he’s from Alaska, where we met and where firearms are an important part of many residents’ everyday lives. Maryland’s 7th legislative district is diverse. We have hunters and families who want to pass down firearms. My husband is one such person who has had a rifle in his family for three generations. It is our understanding that there is a provision in the bill for cases like these.

Yet, even if there wasn’t such a provision, all the gun owners I know say that they would far and away accept any small inconvenience (like a background check for a rifle or long gun) if it had the possibility of saving even one life. I respect hunters and gun enthusiasts’ rights, but as the mother of a small child, I am heart sick about the world my son will be growing up in and want to do anything I can to make it a better and safer one for our children. It is with that spirit that **I fervently support HB 4, and urge each of you to give it a favorable report.** Thank you.