

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION OF SB816 AND HB1257

I'm here today to testify against HB1257. I own a gunshop in Berlin MD. This bill is poorly written and, if it becomes law, it will close every gunshop in Maryland.

I do not feel it is appropriate to visually and audio record any customer in my shop and I have researched multiple federal and state laws that are fairly straight forward in their understanding. This opens the gun shop up to law suits for illegal wiretapping and is an absolute invasion on all of our privacy. Federal and state laws already mandate background checks and record keeping. All gunshops follow the ATF requirements.

The ATF requires certain security measures that ALL gunshops currently adhere to.

The \$2 million dollar insurance portion of this bill. There is no way the shop should be responsible for anothers actions as long as that person passes a background check! The state of Maryland refuses to except responsibility when completing a background check and even words their response to include "NOT DISSAPROVED" so that they cannot be sued for approving a background check. Do we hold the car lot owner responsible for damages or criminal liability when someone is killed in a car accident or the hardware store owner for deaths by hammers which by the way is a considerably higher number than persons killed with legally purchased firearms.

Respectfully,

Bob Arthur
Berlin, MD