

Testimony in regard to HB 1257

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Position on bill: OPPOSE

1. Since the passage of FSB 2013 homicides in Maryland in general and Baltimore in particular have increased nerly 50%. Each year new restrictive firearms legislation is passed with no corresponding drop in murder or attempted murder rates. Just the opposite, rates have increased.

It seems by a common sense approach that more firearms restrictions are counterproductive. Instead of restricting firearms, attention should be focused on the real causes of the violence and legislative resources directed accordingly.

2. The Bill under consideration would put many firearms dealers out of business thus impeding the citizens second amendment rights, which many believe is the underlying purpose of this and similar bills. This bill discriminates against a certain class of businesses

3. Few firearms stolen from Maryland firearms shops are ultimately shown to be used in crime.

4. There are legitimate privacy concerns associated with the provisions of the bill.

5. There are provisions in the bill which may be illegal themselves under Maryland law.

6. I urge an unfavorable report for this bill, and I urge the MGA to focus on the underlying cause of violence and address those instead of trying to pick the low lying fruit. Firearms "Safety" laws have failed miserably in Maryland and by the post 2013 obscene increase in violence, esp in Baltimore, appear to be countproductive. It is just common sense that we seek other avenues for solutions.

V/R  
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