

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA



BRYCE E. REEVES
17TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT
ALL OF ORANGE COUNTY; ALL OF THE
CITY OF FREDERICKSBURG; AND PART OF ALBEMARLE,
CULPEPER, LOUISA, AND SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTIES
P.O. BOX 7021
FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA 22404

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:
REHABILITATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES, CHAIR
COURTS OF JUSTICE
GENERAL LAWS AND TECHNOLOGY
PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS
RULES

SENATE

February 19, 2020

The Honorable Neil C. Parrott
Maryland House of Delegates
213 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Delegate Parrott:

We are writing to commend you for your bill, House Bill 618 (Sales and Use Tax – Exemption – Firearm Safety Devices) and offer our support. Our bill, Senate Bill 268 (Retail Sales and Use Tax; exemption for certain gun safes) has passed both chambers this session in slightly different forms. The gun safe tax exemption, previously carried in the House by Speaker Filler-Corn from 2016-2020, is a commonsense bill which rewards responsible behavior for firearms safety. It passed with near unanimous bipartisan support this session, in the senate 39-0 and in the house 99-1. We anticipate the bill will be reconciled soon and signed into law by Governor Northam.

As you know, Virginia and Maryland share much more than just a border. We have a shared history in the founding of our nation, a shared natural resource in our Chesapeake Bay, shared communities with people who traverse our mutual border daily to work and shop, and shared values in our support of The Constitution and individual responsibility. Our SB 268 and your HB 618 recognize one of our constitutionally-protected rights and the importance of exercising it responsibly. We believe these common sense firearms safety bills are good for Virginia and Maryland.

Please let us know if we may ever be of service.

In service to the Commonwealth,

Handwritten signature of John J. Bell in black ink.

The Honorable John J. Bell
Senate of Virginia, 13th District

Handwritten signature of Bryce E. Reeves in black ink.

The Honorable Bryce E. Reeves
Senate of Virginia, 17th District