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**To:** Members of The House Judiciary Committee

**From:** Doyle Niemann, Chair, Legislative Committee, Criminal Law and Practice Section

**Date:** February 12, 2021

**Subject:** **HB1291 – Public Safety – Untraceable Firearms**

**Position:** **Support**

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The Legislative Committee of the Criminal Law & Practice Section of the Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA) **Supports HB1291 – Public Safety – Untraceable Firearms.**

This bill makes it unlawful for a person to manufacture, assemble, possess, sell, offer to sell, transfer, purchase or receive a firearm or frame for a firearm that does not have a serial number from a federally licensed manufacturer or importer.

Our firearm laws are designed to protect citizens from the proliferation of firearms that cannot be traced or tracked. Modern technology now allows for the easy creation of firearms outside of the regulated process. If unchecked, this will have a negative effect on public safety and the ability of law enforcement to protect citizens.

This bill does not restrict the ability of individuals to acquire or possess firearms produced by reputable and regulated entities. It is a reasonable compromise between the right to possess a firearm and public safety.

For the reasons stated, we **Support HB1291 – Public Safety – Untraceable Firearms.**

If you have questions about the position of the Criminal Law and Practice Section's Legislative Committee, please feel free to address them to me at 240-606-1298 or at [doyleniemann@verizon.net](mailto:doyleniemann@verizon.net).

Should you have other questions, please contact The MSBA's Legislative Office at (410)-269-6464 / (410)-685-7878 ext: 3066 or at [Richard@MSBA.org](mailto:Richard@MSBA.org).