



Support: SB 86 Rifles and Shotguns – Possession – Age Requirement (Raise the Age Act of 2023)

2/2/2023

Maryland Senate
Judicial Proceedings
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chair, Vice-Chair and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the pediatric nurse practitioners (PNPs) and fellow pediatric-focused advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP) Chesapeake Chapter, I am writing to express our support of **SB 86 Rifles and Shotguns – Possession – Age Requirement (Raise the Age Act of 2023)**.

Gun violence and its associated physical and mental health consequences are an escalating public health crisis. Each day, 28 U.S. children and teens—the equivalent of a high school classroom—die from gun violence (American Academy of Pediatrics, 2022). This makes it the number 1 killer of children, teens and young people through age 24. Six of the nine deadliest mass shootings in the United States since 2018, were committed by people 21 or younger, a shift from earlier decades when most mass-casualty shooters were men in their mid-20s, 30s or 40s (New York Times, 2022).

For these reasons the Maryland Chesapeake Chapter of NAPNAP extends their support to **SB 86 Rifles and Shotguns – Possession – Age Requirement (Raise the Age Act of 2023)**.

The pediatric advanced practice nurses of your state are grateful to you for your attention to these crucial issues. The members of Chesapeake Chapter of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners are committed to improving the health and advocating for Maryland's pediatric patients. If we can be of any further assistance, or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Lindsay J. Ward , the Chesapeake Chapter President at 410-507-3642 or lindsayjward@hotmail.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lindsay J. Ward". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lindsay J. Ward CRNP, RN, IBCLC, MSN, BSN
Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner- Pediatric Primary Care
International Board-Certified Lactation Consultant
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP)
Chesapeake Chapter President



Evgenia Ogordova

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National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP)
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