

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

I am writing to oppose, and urge an unfavorable report on, SB86.

I have a daughter who is 18. With two of her high-school aged friends, she ran a summer camp for young children. She and her two friends were in charge of roughly 20 children for 10 hours a day, M-F, for three weeks. All went extremely well and they've never had to advertise because word-of-mouth and the number of return customers. The proposed law insists that these three young woman who were responsible enough to be the unsupervised care-givers for a group of roughly 20 children are somehow not responsible enough to decide if they want to purchase (or rent or borrow) a rifle or a shotgun by themselves. Really, firearms require more maturity and capability to handle than 20 children? That's a premise that should become law?

In regard to the permissions provision of SB86, my son has a friend whose parents, unfortunately, passed away some years ago. My son's friend is 20. As he is not a minor (being passed 18 and all) with no legal guardians (he is an adult) whom would he seek permission from should he want to buy (or rent or borrow) a rifle or a shotgun in Maryland? Or will he just be out of luck if the proposed law is passed?

Sincerely,

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