

February 6, 2023

To the Maryland General Assembly,

Thank you for all your hard work to ensure the smooth sailing of our state's democracy. I am a proud Marylander who has lived here his whole life and am glad to call this state home. I am writing in opposition to the new legislation imposing further restrictions on holders of Wear and Carry permits in the state.

As an Orthodox Jew, I am deeply concerned about the rise in antisemitic incidents in the United States. These events have left me feeling exposed and at risk, particularly when I am openly practicing my religion, spending time with my family, or conducting routine daily activities. In these situations, having the ability to protect myself and my loved ones is critical.

It is often argued that carry laws should be more restrictive due to concerns about public safety. However, the data suggests otherwise. In Maryland, before being granted a Wear and Carry permit, individuals must undergo extensive background checks and rigorous training. This ensures that only responsible, law-abiding citizens can carry a weapon.

In the wake of the Bruen decision, the number of applications for Wear and Carry permits in the State of Maryland skyrocketed. This is a testament to how important this right is to people who want to protect themselves and their families. Furthermore, the statistics clearly demonstrate that Wear and Carry licensees are not the ones perpetrating gun violence. This reinforces the fact that concealed carriers are responsible, law-abiding citizens who have gone through the proper channels to obtain their license.

In light of these facts, it would be unjust and improper to further restrict the rights of responsible concealed carriers. We have already gone through the many necessary steps to properly follow the law and protect ourselves and our families.

Sincerely,

David Tabin