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Senate Bill 86
Position: OPOSE

This bill would destroy the time honored Maryland tradition of hunting and competitive shooting for otherwise Federally legal firearm owners. There is no evidence the state of Maryland can present to show that the legal possession age of firearms needs to be raised to 21 in spite of Federal requirements being 18. Youth recruitment into the shooting sports is essential for the survival of our hunting and competitive shooting traditions. By raising the minimum age to 21 the state of Maryland is removing the opportunity for parents or relatives to be involved in such activities with youth. Most young adults at 21 are heading off to college or pursuing careers and have left their parents residence and even the state their parents and extended family reside in. With an ever increasing need for parents to be engaged with their children in constructive activities this bill would eliminate the very thing our society needs. It is proven that youth involved in sports are less likely to join gangs, do drugs, or drop out of school. These are all positive things for our youth and we need to encourage them in all sporting events even and especially those that involve firearms. It is during these sporting events, firearm safety is taught and required, leading to a life long knowledge of firearms and proper safety protocol associated with them.

Please do not take this opportunity away from Maryland families and withdraw Senate Bill 86

Thank you,



Charles Knaggs