

## Testimony SB488

My name is Donna Worthy. I am President of the Maryland Firearms Dealers Association as well as the President of Worth-A-Shot, a Firearms store in Millersville Maryland.

I strongly oppose SB488. This bill is written with an impossible standard for Firearm Stores. This bill is so vague that it implies an impossible standard for gun store owners to follow. Because of the vagueness of the law and the potential to lawsuits being essentially limitless, no company would be able to obtain insurance to cover themselves. Without insurance, companies would be forced to go out of business.

This bill uses words such as "reasonable and unreasonable". The use of these words leaves the bill up for interpretation.

If the purpose of this bill is to reduce the amount of firearms in MD or reduce crime, this bill will not achieve that. This bill would however, cause many gun stores in MD to go out of business. This will cause the loss of thousands of jobs and a large loss in tax revenue for this state. Individuals that wish to purchase firearms can still do so, even if a large number of stores go out of business in Maryland. It is perfectly legal to purchase long guns in other states, and handguns can be purchased out of state by simply transferring said firearm to one of the few remaining stores here in Maryland.

Firearm stores are your first line of defense. We turn away any suspicious sales or straw purchases. We are already held to tight standards both by the state and the ATF. We have regular inspections and audits from both agencies.

In conclusion, passing this bill would not reduce gun violence, crime or even the number of firearms in this state. It would however, reduce jobs and tax revenue for the state and cause many stores to go out of business.

For these reasons I strongly urge an unfavorable report for SB488.