

Good Afternoon Ladies and Gentlemen,

My name is Earl William Owen and I am an Oregon resident living in district 51 and I am a U.S. Army retiree. I served our nation and Oregon for 27 years and was a military police officer, so firearms as I am sure you would assume were an integral part of my duties and life. However, I have also maintained a close watch on this vital freedom guaranteed under the U.S. Constitution to all citizens not just the military and stayed involved at the state level wherever I was stationed. I was actively involved in Maryland during that states push toward extreme gun control policies and in just the short two years that their law has been in place, violent gun related crime has risen and the illegal possession of firearms has not been effected in the least. What is has done in Maryland has made it harder for that states law abiding population to obtain firearms for self defense or any other purpose. The aim of this bill is laudatory, yet will not fulfill its intent. It will not remove one firearm from a criminal element nor will it prevent them from obtaining them, they plainly do not care about the laws written and even more those which cannot be truly enforced. Our states law enforcement agencies have already said on record that this will be next to impossible to enforce. What it will do is make it that much more difficult for our law abiding citizens to buy, sell, or trade legally owned firearms, to which in and of itself is a violation of the "not be infringed" statute of the 2nd amendment to the U.S. Constitution. This will place a burden upon individuals through time and cost, to licensed firearms dealers in cost of processing, and to the state agencies which are already understaffed in the processing of the significant increase of back ground checks that will be required (Maryland is still more than six months behind in its processing of application and conducting of background checks). I earnestly ask that as representatives of this great state's people that you reject this bill and vote "no" on this waist of legislative time and money, and spend our tax dollars on things that will have true impact on public safety.

Sincerely,

Earl William Owen