

Maryland Shall Issue
The Citizens Defense League of Maryland

Maryland Shall Issue Position Statement

SB-64 - Public Safety -Machine Gun Registration - Notice To Renew - **SUPPORT**

Hearing Scheduled for Thursday, February 2 at 1:00pm

Requiring the Secretary of State Police, on or before March 15 in each year succeeding the registration of a machine gun, to notify the registrant in writing of the requirement to renew the registration.

Background on this bill: A person who acquires a machine gun must register the machine gun with the Secretary of State Police within 24 hours after acquiring the machine gun and in each succeeding year during the month of May. The Secretary of State Police is required to prepare and, on request of an applicant, furnish an application form for registration.

The Maryland State Police claim that they already send out notices for renewals, but the fact is that these are not reliably mailed in time for them to have any meaningful benefit. Given the gravity of failing to complete these renewals in a timely manner, it is an imperative that renewal reminders be sent out in a timely manner.

SB64 addresses that by simply requiring that the renewals be sent out by March 15 of each year. The fiscal note for the bill confirms that the State Police can accomplish this with no additional resources or expense.

What SB64 does not address is that owners of machine guns who do lawfully register them each year and do so in time have no record of that registration.

Again, given the gravity of failing to register, it is a necessity for these owners to be provided with a record of their registration.

Maryland Shall Issue supports the amending of SB64 to include a stipulation that the Maryland State Police issue a stamped receipt of registration to those that comply with the requirements of §4-403.

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What we need you to do:

- Contact the members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee.

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•Tell them that this is common sense legislation that protects Maryland citizens who go to extraordinary lengths to comply with both state and federal laws in order to own these firearms.

•Tell them that there is no reason that the Maryland State Police can not manage this from a logistical and fiscal standpoint. There are 928 machine guns registered in the state of Maryland. If the emissions program can send out thousands of reminders every year for the \$14 inspection fee, the Maryland State Police can send out 928 reminders.

•Tell them that the cost of sending these reminders is ultimately cheaper than enforcement against those law-abiding Maryland gun owners who forget to mail in their annual registration for their machine guns.

MARYLAND SHALL ISSUE
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