

Good afternoon: I am writing to express my concern with Bill 21-22. The bill is problematic and worrisome in quite a few ways, but some more than others – and, of course, some more personally than others as well.

I expect to receive my Wear and Carry Permit later this year, as do many others now that the Supreme Court, in its *Bruen* ruling, has declared the “Good and Substantial Reason” portion of the permitting law to be unconstitutional. Currently, Montgomery County law forbids carrying a firearm within one hundred yards of any place of public assembly, specifying public parks as one such location, and makes an exception for those who have carry permits. Bill 21-22 would remove this exemption, making it unlawful even for permit holders to carry in such areas.

My apartment lies about twenty yards from the border of a park owned by Montgomery County. Although Bill 21-22 does make an exception for carrying within one’s home, it would seem to make it impossible for me to walk out of my own front door while carrying my firearm. For me to comply with this bill, I would apparently have to unload my firearm, walk or drive to a location deemed suitable for carry by Montgomery County, then reload my firearm and go about my day. (And, of course, I would need to perform the same procedure in reverse on my way home.) This would make it so inconvenient to use my carry permit that it would effectively make my permit useless – which would defeat the purpose of getting the permit in the first place.

I urge you not to pass this bill. If you do, someone in my circumstances will undoubtedly file a lawsuit against Montgomery County, and while I am not a lawyer, I find it difficult to see how the county could possibly win. You could, in fact, end up having other restrictions besides this one thrown out by the court, leaving you with fewer carry restrictions than you had in the first place.

Very truly yours,

{signed}
Parrish S. Knight