

July 15, 2022

Reg: Bill 21-22

Dear Council Members:

I do not support Bill 21-22. I believe the bill is driven by the mistaken belief that “more guns on the street means more crime.”

The Bill is intended to outlaw concealed carry almost everywhere in Montgomery County.

One needs only to know what happened in the 44 states that have either “shall issue” or “constitutional” (no permit required) concealed carry. The law-abiding who do not carry guns today, do not become criminals tomorrow after personal defense is permitted by the government.

No State that has permissive concealed carry has seen an increase in gun crimes by the law-abiding (source AWR Hawkins, John Lott Jr., et. al.)

Self-defense is a natural right. A “belief” that concealed carry by the law abiding means more crime is unfounded and is subordinate to the natural right to survive.

I support Maryland law as it stands for concealed carry. That is enough for public safety. Bill 21-22 is not required.

Best Regards,

Cs//

Cary Secrest