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Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 2:03 PM
To: Fox, Greg; Ball, Calvin B; Terrasa, Jen; Sigaty, Mary Kay; Weinstein, Jon
Subject: 2 points regarding firearms legislation

Dear Elected Representatives in Howard County

ISSUE #1

I understand Bill 8-2015 has been introduced to limit firearms in county controlled buildings. It will not deter criminals from wrong doing, but it does limit one's ability to protect themselves. I believe it's a bill in search of a problem and if approved it would apply to a very small number of people as permits to carry are already very limited. It will penalize law abiding citizens, who have already gone through multiple background checks, completed the MD State Police required concealed carry training and who have already met the very, onerous requirements the state of Maryland imposes to obtain a carry permit.

I encourage you to view the short 2 minute video at the link below and ask yourself; if you were in that situation with a gunman outside the meeting room, would you be happy your coworker had a firearm? If not and you prefer to take your chances, do you feel you should have the right to prevent your co-worker or constituent from defending themselves.

<http://www.cnn.com/2015/01/27/us/minnesota-city-council-officers-shot/>

ISSUE #2

I would also like to point out that Howard County law is already restrictive, to the point of silly, when it comes to some firearm laws.

- Did you know that shooting a toy gun such as shown here is illegal in our county?



- Did you know that an adult cannot legally shoot targets with a B-B gun or airsoft gun (plastic BB's) outdoors in the county except at a range? Even on their own property ...and... even if you're on a 25 acre farm. While officers and/or

prosecutors could exercise some discretion in these matters, I don't believe it is fair to ask a citizen to break the law and take a chance that they will.

SUMMARY

Please vote down Bill 8-2015.

Please consider changing current law to allow the use of toys and B-B guns in a safe manner.

Thank you for your time and consideration of the issues.

Respectfully,

Gregory Hills
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District 3