

**WE, THE UNDERSIGNED CITIZENS OF Maryland,** draw the attention of the Maryland Legislature to the following:

A variety of abuses of the people's right to keep and bear arms have resulted from Maryland and Federal governments as documented in the Declaration and Resolves prepared as a separate document. To correct those abuses and to insure that government's action be directed at criminal use of firearms, the petitioners signing below do demand the Maryland Senate and House of Delegates amend the Maryland Constitution, Declaration of Rights, to protect the law-abiding gun owners from legal abuse with the following Article:

*All persons are, by nature, free and equal, and have the inherent and inalienable Right of enjoying and defending their lives and liberties.*

*To that end, all persons have the Right to keep and carry arms and are responsible for the abuse of that Right and no law shall be passed for disarming the people or any of them, unless for crimes committed, or real danger of public injury from individuals; but this provision shall not prevent the passage of legislation providing minimum sentences for crimes committed that were facilitated by a firearm, nor prevent passage of legislation providing penalties for the possession of firearms by a convicted felon or by a person adjudicated as not responsible because of mental illness or other mental impairment, nor prevent the passage of legislation punishing the use of a firearm, nor prevent the regulation of possession of firearms by a minor. Nor shall any regulation on the open possession of a firearm by a minor apply when supervised by an adult or when on private property with the permission of the owner for purposes of shooting.*

*No municipality or county shall regulate, in any way, an incident of the right to keep and carry arms, but may regulate the discharge of firearms for non self-defense purposes.*

*No law shall impose licensure, registration or special taxation on the ownership or possession of firearms or ammunition. Nor shall any law permit the confiscation of firearms, except those actually used in the commission of a felony.*

*Since equality in the enjoyment of rights is only made sure through political equality, the laws of this state affecting these Rights shall be without distinction of race, color, sex, or any circumstance or condition whatsoever other than individual incompetency, or unworthiness duly ascertained by a court of competent jurisdiction.*

Signature (Sign your name -- Do **not** print!)

Address (Give your full mailing address.)

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Draft -- for Comment -- Do not USE

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**Note: Signatures and addresses must be handwritten originals only. Each signatory must indicate his or her address. Each completed petition form should be duplicated and it and the copy mailed to MCRKBA, P.O. Box 4976, Silver Spring, MD 20914-4976**