

SENATE BILL 443

E4

5lr1277

By: ~~Senator Smith~~ **Senators Smith, Waldstreicher, James, Folden, West, Sydnor,
and McKay**

Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2025

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 7, 2025

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Trafficking Regulated Firearms – Felony Classification**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the statute of limitations applicable to the offense of trafficking
4 a regulated firearm; reclassifying the prohibition against transporting a regulated
5 firearm into the State for the purpose of unlawfully selling or trafficking the firearm
6 as a felony; and generally relating to trafficking regulated firearms.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

8 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings

9 Section 5–106(t)

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

13 Article – Public Safety

14 Section 5–140

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
18 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 5-106.

2 (t) A prosecution for an offense under [§ 5-140, § 5-141,] § 5-141 or § 5-144 of
3 the Public Safety Article, relating to straw sales of regulated firearms to prohibited persons
4 or minors and to illegal sales, rentals, transfers, possession, or receipt of regulated firearms,
5 shall be instituted within 3 years after the offense was committed.

6 **Article – Public Safety**

7 5-140.

8 (a) A dealer or other person may not transport a regulated firearm into the State
9 for the purpose of unlawfully selling or trafficking of the regulated firearm.

10 (b) A person who violates this section is guilty of a [misdemeanor] **FELONY** and
11 on conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding 10 years or a fine not exceeding
12 \$25,000 or both.

13 (c) Each violation of this section is a separate crime.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
15 October 1, 2025.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.