

HOUSE BILL 781

E4
HB 758/18 – JUD

9lr2137

By: **Delegates Szeliga, Arentz, Arian, Beitzel, Boteler, Buckel, Cassilly, Chisholm, Ciliberti, Corderman, Ghrist, Grammer, Hartman, Hornberger, Howard, Krebs, Mangione, McComas, McKay, Metzgar, Miller, Parrott, Reilly, Rose, and Shoemaker**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2019

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Safety – Handgun Permit – Church or Religious Organization Property**
3 **(Parishioner Protection Act of 2019)**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing a person who has the consent of a certain church or
5 religious organization to carry a handgun on the property of the church or religious
6 organization during certain events and who has the intent to wear, carry, or
7 transport a handgun for certain purposes on the property of the church or religious
8 organization to, without a permit, carry a handgun on the property of the church or
9 religious organization during certain events and transport a handgun to and from
10 certain church or religious organization events; and generally relating to permits to
11 carry, wear, or transport a handgun.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

13 Article – Public Safety
14 Section 5–303
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2018 Replacement Volume)

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

19 **Article – Public Safety**

20 5–303.

21 **(A) [A] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION,** A person
22 shall have a permit issued under this subtitle before the person carries, wears, or transports

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 a handgun.

2 **(B) A PERSON WHO HAS THE WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE GOVERNING BOARD**
3 **OF A BONA FIDE CHURCH OR RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION TO CARRY A HANDGUN ON**
4 **THE PROPERTY OF THE CHURCH OR RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION DURING SERVICES**
5 **AND GATHERINGS AND WHO HAS THE INTENT TO WEAR, CARRY, OR TRANSPORT A**
6 **HANDGUN FOR PURPOSES RELATED TO SELF-PROTECTION OR THE PROTECTION OF**
7 **OTHERS WHILE ON THE PROPERTY OF THE CHURCH OR RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION**
8 **MAY, WITHOUT A PERMIT:**

9 **(1) CARRY A HANDGUN ON THE PROPERTY OF THE CHURCH OR**
10 **RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION DURING SERVICES AND GATHERINGS; AND**

11 **(2) TRANSPORT A HANDGUN TO AND FROM SERVICES AND**
12 **GATHERINGS OF THE CHURCH OR RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION.**

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
14 October 1, 2019.