

# HOUSE BILL 891

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By: **Delegates Saab, Anderton, Beidle, Beitzel, Bromwell, Buckel, Carey, Chang, Clark, Glass, Hornberger, S. Howard, Kipke, Kittleman, Krebs, Lisanti, Malone, McComas, McConkey, McKay, Miele, W. Miller, Morgan, Oaks, Otto, Parrott, Reilly, Rose, Simonaire, Sophocleus, Szeliga, and B. Wilson**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2017

Assigned to: Judiciary

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Handgun Permits – Firearms Training Courses**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the requirements for firearms training courses that an initial  
4 applicant for a permit to carry, wear, or transport a handgun and an applicant for  
5 renewal of a permit must successfully complete; and generally relating to permits to  
6 carry, wear, or transport a handgun.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

8 Article – Public Safety

9 Section 5–306(a)

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2011 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Public Safety**

15 5–306.

16 (a) Subject to subsection (c) of this section, the Secretary shall issue a permit  
17 within a reasonable time to a person who the Secretary finds:

18 (1) is an adult;

19 (2) (i) has not been convicted of a felony or of a misdemeanor for which  
20 a sentence of imprisonment for more than 1 year has been imposed; or

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (ii) if convicted of a crime described in item (i) of this item, has been  
2 pardoned or has been granted relief under 18 U.S.C. § 925(c);

3 (3) has not been convicted of a crime involving the possession, use, or  
4 distribution of a controlled dangerous substance;

5 (4) is not presently an alcoholic, addict, or habitual user of a controlled  
6 dangerous substance unless the habitual use of the controlled dangerous substance is under  
7 legitimate medical direction;

8 (5) except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, has successfully  
9 completed prior to application and each renewal, a firearms training course approved by  
10 the Secretary that includes:

11 (i) 1. for an initial application, a minimum of [16] 6 hours of  
12 instruction by a qualified handgun instructor; or

13 2. for a renewal application, [8] 2 hours of instruction by a  
14 qualified handgun instructor;

15 (ii) classroom instruction on:

16 1. State firearm law;

17 2. home firearm safety; and

18 3. handgun mechanisms and operation; and

19 (iii) a firearms qualification component that demonstrates the  
20 applicant's proficiency and use of the firearm; and

21 (6) based on an investigation:

22 (i) has not exhibited a propensity for violence or instability that may  
23 reasonably render the person's possession of a handgun a danger to the person or to  
24 another; and

25 (ii) has good and substantial reason to wear, carry, or transport a  
26 handgun, such as a finding that the permit is necessary as a reasonable precaution against  
27 apprehended danger.

28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
29 October 1, 2017.