

# SENATE BILL 516

E4  
SB 43/07 – JPR

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By: **Senators Lenett, Conway, Currie, Exum, Frosh, Harrington, Jones, Kelley, King, Madaleno, McFadden, Pinsky, Pugh, Raskin, and Rosapepe**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2010

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Assault Weapons Ban of 2010**

3 FOR the purpose of designating certain firearms as assault weapons; prohibiting with  
4 certain exceptions a person from transporting an assault weapon into the State  
5 or possessing, selling, offering to sell, transferring, purchasing, or receiving an  
6 assault weapon; requiring the Handgun Roster Board to compile and maintain a  
7 roster of prohibited assault weapons; requiring the Board to have the roster of  
8 prohibited assault weapons published in the Maryland Register at certain times  
9 and to send copies of the roster to certain persons; designating assault long guns  
10 and copycat weapons as types of assault weapons; authorizing certain licensed  
11 firearms dealers to continue to possess, sell, offer for sale, or transfer assault  
12 long guns or copycat weapons under certain circumstances; authorizing certain  
13 persons to continue to possess assault long guns or copycat weapons under  
14 certain circumstances; authorizing a procedure by which a person may petition  
15 the Board to remove a copycat weapon from the roster of prohibited assault  
16 weapons; requiring the Board to hold a hearing under certain circumstances;  
17 making it a misdemeanor to use an assault long gun or a copycat weapon in the  
18 commission of a felony or a crime of violence; establishing certain penalties;  
19 requiring that certain firearms be lawfully possessed on or before a certain date  
20 in order for them to qualify as regulated firearms for certain purposes; defining  
21 certain terms; making conforming changes; and generally relating to assault  
22 weapons.

23 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
24 Article – Criminal Law  
25 Section 3–202(a)(2)(ii) and 4–106(a)(6)(ii); and 4–301 through 4–306 to be under  
26 the amended subtitle “Subtitle 3. Assault Weapons and Detachable  
27 Magazines”  
28 Annotated Code of Maryland

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2002 Volume and 2009 Supplement)

2 BY adding to

3 Article – Criminal Law

4 Section 4–305 and 4–306

5 Annotated Code of Maryland

6 (2002 Volume and 2009 Supplement)

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

8 Article – Public Safety

9 Section 5–101(p)

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2003 Volume and 2009 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Criminal Law**

15 3–202.

16 (a) (2) A person may not commit an assault with a firearm, including:

17 (ii) an assault [pistol] WEAPON, as defined in § 4–301 of this  
18 article;

19 4–106.

20 (a) (6) “Firearm” includes:

21 (ii) an assault [pistol] WEAPON as defined in § 4–301 of this  
22 title;

23 Subtitle 3. Assault [Pistols] WEAPONS and Detachable Magazines.

24 4–301.

25 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
26 INDICATED.

27 (B) “ASSAULT LONG GUN” MEANS ANY ASSAULT WEAPON LISTED  
28 UNDER § 5–101(P)(2)(II) OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE.

29 (C) [In this subtitle, “assault] “ASSAULT pistol” means any of the following  
30 firearms [or a copy regardless of the producer or manufacturer]:

31 (1) AA Arms AP–9 semiautomatic pistol;

- 1 (2) Bushmaster semiautomatic pistol;
- 2 (3) Claridge HI-TEC semiautomatic pistol;
- 3 (4) D Max Industries semiautomatic pistol;
- 4 (5) Encom MK-IV, MP-9, or MP-45 semiautomatic pistol;
- 5 (6) Heckler and Koch semiautomatic SP-89 pistol;
- 6 (7) Holmes MP-83 semiautomatic pistol;
- 7 (8) Ingram MAC 10/11 semiautomatic pistol and variations including
- 8 the Partisan Avenger and the SWD Cobray;
- 9 (9) Intratec TEC-9/DC-9 semiautomatic pistol in any centerfire
- 10 variation;
- 11 (10) P.A.W.S. type semiautomatic pistol;
- 12 (11) Skorpion semiautomatic pistol;
- 13 (12) Spectre double action semiautomatic pistol (Sile, F.I.E., Mitchell);
- 14 (13) UZI semiautomatic pistol;
- 15 (14) Weaver Arms semiautomatic Nighthawk pistol; or
- 16 (15) Wilkinson semiautomatic "Linda" pistol.

17 **(D) "ASSAULT WEAPON" MEANS:**

- 18 **(1) AN ASSAULT LONG GUN;**
- 19 **(2) AN ASSAULT PISTOL; OR**
- 20 **(3) A COPYCAT WEAPON.**

21 **(E) "BOARD" MEANS THE HANDGUN ROSTER BOARD ESTABLISHED**  
22 **UNDER § 5-404 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE.**

23 **(F) (1) "COPYCAT WEAPON" MEANS:**

- 24 **(I) A SEMIAUTOMATIC, CENTERFIRE RIFLE THAT CAN**  
25 **ACCEPT A DETACHABLE MAGAZINE AND ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:**

1                           1.    A    PISTOL    GRIP    THAT    PROTRUDES  
2   CONSPICUOUSLY BENEATH THE ACTION OF THE WEAPON;

3                           2.    A THUMBHOLE STOCK;

4                           3.    A FOLDING OR TELESCOPING STOCK;

5                           4.    A GRENADE LAUNCHER OR FLARE LAUNCHER;

6                           5.    A FLASH SUPPRESSOR; OR

7                           6.    A FORWARD PISTOL GRIP;

8                           (II)  A SEMIAUTOMATIC, CENTERFIRE RIFLE THAT HAS A  
9   FIXED MAGAZINE WITH THE CAPACITY TO ACCEPT MORE THAN 10 ROUNDS;

10                          (III) A SEMIAUTOMATIC, CENTERFIRE RIFLE THAT HAS AN  
11   OVERALL LENGTH OF LESS THAN 30 INCHES;

12                          (IV)  A SEMIAUTOMATIC PISTOL THAT CAN ACCEPT A  
13   DETACHABLE MAGAZINE AND ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

14                           1.    A THREADED BARREL, CAPABLE OF ACCEPTING A  
15   FLASH SUPPRESSOR, FORWARD HANDGRIP, OR SILENCER;

16                           2.    A SECOND HANDGRIP;

17                           3.    A SHROUD THAT IS ATTACHED TO OR THAT  
18   PARTIALLY OR COMPLETELY ENCIRCLES THE BARREL, EXCEPT FOR A SLIDE  
19   THAT ENCLOSSES THE BARREL, AND THAT ALLOWS THE BEARER TO FIRE THE  
20   WEAPON WITHOUT BURNING THE BEARER'S HAND; OR

21                           4.    THE CAPACITY TO ACCEPT A DETACHABLE  
22   MAGAZINE OUTSIDE OF THE PISTOL GRIP;

23                          (V)  A SEMIAUTOMATIC PISTOL WITH A FIXED MAGAZINE  
24   THAT CAN ACCEPT MORE THAN 10 ROUNDS;

25                          (VI)  A SEMIAUTOMATIC SHOTGUN THAT HAS BOTH OF THE  
26   FOLLOWING:

27                           1.    A FOLDING OR TELESCOPING STOCK; AND

1                   **2. A PISTOL GRIP THAT PROTRUDES**  
2 **CONSPICUOUSLY BENEATH THE ACTION OF THE WEAPON, THUMBHOLE STOCK,**  
3 **OR VERTICAL HANDGRIP; OR**

4                   **(VII) A SHOTGUN WITH A REVOLVING CYLINDER.**

5                   **(2) “COPYCAT WEAPON” DOES NOT INCLUDE AN ASSAULT LONG**  
6 **GUN OR AN ASSAULT PISTOL.**

7                   **(G) “DETACHABLE MAGAZINE” MEANS AN AMMUNITION FEEDING**  
8 **DEVICE THAT CAN BE REMOVED READILY FROM A FIREARM WITHOUT**  
9 **REQUIRING DISASSEMBLY OF THE FIREARM ACTION OR WITHOUT THE USE OF A**  
10 **TOOL, INCLUDING A BULLET OR CARTRIDGE.**

11                   **(H) “FLASH SUPPRESSOR” MEANS A DEVICE THAT IS INTENDED TO**  
12 **FUNCTION OR THAT FUNCTIONS TO PERCEPTIBLY REDUCE OR REDIRECT**  
13 **MUZZLE FLASH FROM THE SHOOTER’S FIELD OF VISION.**

14                   **(I) “FORWARD PISTOL GRIP” MEANS A GRIP THAT ALLOWS FOR A**  
15 **PISTOL-STYLE GRASP FORWARD OF THE TRIGGER.**

16                   **(J) “LICENSED FIREARMS DEALER” MEANS A PERSON WHO HOLDS A**  
17 **DEALER’S LICENSE UNDER TITLE 5, SUBTITLE 1 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY**  
18 **ARTICLE.**

19                   **(K) “PISTOL GRIP THAT PROTRUDES CONSPICUOUSLY BENEATH THE**  
20 **ACTION OF THE WEAPON” MEANS A GRIP THAT ALLOWS FOR A PISTOL-STYLE**  
21 **GRASP IN WHICH THE WEB OF THE TRIGGER HAND BETWEEN THE THUMB AND**  
22 **INDEX FINGER CAN BE PLACED BELOW THE TOP OF THE EXPOSED PORTION OF**  
23 **THE TRIGGER WHILE FIRING.**

24                   **(L) “THUMBHOLE STOCK” MEANS A STOCK WITH A HOLE THAT ALLOWS**  
25 **THE THUMB OF THE TRIGGER HAND TO PENETRATE INTO OR THROUGH THE**  
26 **STOCK WHILE FIRING.**

27 4-302.

28 This subtitle does not apply to:

29                   (1) if acting within the scope of official business, personnel of the  
30 United States government or a unit of that government, members of the armed forces  
31 of the United States or of the National Guard, or law enforcement personnel of the  
32 State or a local unit in the State;

33                   (2) a firearm modified to render it permanently inoperative;

1           (3) purchases, sales, and transport to or by a licensed firearms dealer  
2 or manufacturer who is:

3                   (i) providing or servicing an assault [pistol] WEAPON or  
4 detachable magazine for a law enforcement unit or for personnel exempted under item  
5 (1) of this section; or

6                   (ii) acting to sell or transfer an assault [pistol] WEAPON or  
7 detachable magazine to a licensed firearm dealer in another state;

8           (4) organizations that are required or authorized by federal law  
9 governing their specific business or activity to maintain assault [pistols] WEAPONS  
10 and applicable ammunition and detachable magazines;

11           (5) the receipt of an assault [pistol] WEAPON or detachable magazine  
12 by inheritance if the decedent lawfully possessed the assault [pistol] WEAPON; or

13           (6) the receipt of an assault [pistol] WEAPON or detachable magazine  
14 by a personal representative of an estate for purposes of exercising the powers and  
15 duties of a personal representative of an estate.

16 4–303.

17           (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, a person may not:

18                   (1) transport an assault [pistol] WEAPON into the State; or

19                   (2) possess, sell, offer to sell, transfer, purchase, or receive an assault  
20 [pistol] WEAPON.

21           (b) **(1)** A person who lawfully possessed an assault [pistol] WEAPON  
22 before June 1, 1994 and who registered the assault [pistol] WEAPON with the  
23 Secretary of [the] State Police before August 1, 1994 may continue to possess the  
24 assault [pistol] WEAPON.

25                   **(2)** A LICENSED FIREARMS DEALER MAY CONTINUE TO POSSESS,  
26 SELL, OFFER FOR SALE, OR TRANSFER AN ASSAULT LONG GUN OR A COPYCAT  
27 WEAPON THAT THE LICENSED FIREARMS DEALER LAWFULLY POSSESSED ON OR  
28 BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2010.

29                   **(3)** A PERSON WHO LAWFULLY POSSESSED AN ASSAULT LONG  
30 GUN OR A COPYCAT WEAPON BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2010, AND WHO REGISTERS  
31 THE ASSAULT LONG GUN OR COPYCAT WEAPON WITH THE SECRETARY OF  
32 STATE POLICE BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2010, MAY CONTINUE TO POSSESS THE  
33 ASSAULT LONG GUN OR COPYCAT WEAPON.

1 4-304.

2 A law enforcement unit may seize as contraband and dispose of according to  
3 regulation an assault [pistol] WEAPON transported, sold, transferred, purchased,  
4 received, or possessed in violation of this subtitle.

5 **4-305.**

6 **(A) THE BOARD SHALL COMPILE AND MAINTAIN A ROSTER OF**  
7 **PROHIBITED ASSAULT WEAPONS.**

8 **(B) BEGINNING NOT LATER THAN JULY 1, 2011, AND EVERY 6 MONTHS**  
9 **THEREAFTER, THE BOARD SHALL HAVE THE ROSTER OF PROHIBITED ASSAULT**  
10 **WEAPONS PUBLISHED IN THE MARYLAND REGISTER AND SHALL SEND A COPY**  
11 **OF THE ROSTER TO ALL LICENSED FIREARMS DEALERS.**

12 **4-306.**

13 **(A) A PERSON MAY PETITION THE BOARD TO REMOVE A COPYCAT**  
14 **WEAPON FROM THE ROSTER OF PROHIBITED ASSAULT WEAPONS IN**  
15 **ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION AND TITLE 10, SUBTITLE 2 OF THE STATE**  
16 **GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.**

17 **(B) A PETITION SHALL BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING IN THE FORM THAT**  
18 **THE BOARD REQUIRES.**

19 **(C) A PETITIONER HAS THE BURDEN OF PROVING TO THE BOARD THAT**  
20 **THE COPYCAT WEAPON DOES NOT MEET THE DEFINITIONAL REQUIREMENTS OF**  
21 **§ 4-301(F) OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

22 **(D) (1) WITHIN 45 DAYS AFTER RECEIPT OF A PETITION, THE BOARD**  
23 **MAY:**

24 **(I) DENY THE PETITION AND STATE THE REASONS FOR THE**  
25 **DENIAL; OR**

26 **(II) APPROVE THE PETITION IF THE FIREARM IS**  
27 **DETERMINED BY THE BOARD NOT TO QUALIFY AS A COPYCAT WEAPON, REMOVE**  
28 **THE FIREARM FROM THE ROSTER OF PROHIBITED ASSAULT WEAPONS, AND**  
29 **PUBLISH IN THE MARYLAND REGISTER:**

30 **1. A DESCRIPTION OF THE FIREARM; AND**

1                   **2. A NOTICE STATING THAT AN OBJECTION TO THE**  
2 **REMOVAL OF THE FIREARM FROM THE ROSTER MUST BE FILED WITH THE**  
3 **BOARD WITHIN 30 DAYS.**

4                   **(2) IF THE BOARD DOES NOT TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY**  
5 **THE PETITION WITHIN 45 DAYS AFTER RECEIPT OF THE PETITION, THE**  
6 **PETITION SHALL BE CONSIDERED DENIED.**

7                   **(E) (1) IF A PETITION IS DENIED, THE BOARD SHALL NOTIFY THE**  
8 **PETITIONER BY CERTIFIED MAIL.**

9                   **(2) THE PETITIONER MAY REQUEST A HEARING BEFORE THE**  
10 **BOARD WITHIN 15 DAYS AFTER THE DATE THAT THE DENIAL LETTER IS**  
11 **RECEIVED.**

12                   **(3) WITHIN A REASONABLE TIME NOT EXCEEDING 90 DAYS AFTER**  
13 **RECEIPT OF A REQUEST FOR A HEARING, THE BOARD SHALL HOLD A HEARING**  
14 **AND ISSUE A WRITTEN FINAL DECISION.**

15 **[4-305.] 4-307.**

16                   (a) This section does not apply to a .22 caliber rifle with a tubular magazine.

17                   (b) A person may not manufacture, sell, offer for sale, purchase, receive, or  
18 transfer a detachable magazine that has a capacity of more than 20 rounds of  
19 ammunition for a firearm.

20 **[4-306.] 4-308.**

21                   (a) A person who violates this subtitle is guilty of a misdemeanor and on  
22 conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding 3 years or a fine not exceeding  
23 \$5,000 or both.

24                   (b) (1) A person who uses an assault pistol, or a magazine that has a  
25 capacity of more than 20 rounds of ammunition, in the commission of a felony or a  
26 crime of violence as defined in § 5-101 of the Public Safety Article is guilty of a  
27 misdemeanor and on conviction, in addition to any other sentence imposed for the  
28 felony or crime of violence, shall be sentenced under this subsection.

29                   (2) (i) For a first violation, the person shall be sentenced to  
30 imprisonment for not less than 5 years and not exceeding 20 years.

31                   (ii) The court may not impose less than the minimum sentence  
32 of 5 years.



1 (iii) The mandatory minimum sentence of 5 years may not be  
2 suspended.

3 (iv) Except as otherwise provided in § 4–305 of the Correctional  
4 Services Article, the person is not eligible for parole in less than 5 years.

5 (3) (i) For each subsequent violation, the person shall be sentenced  
6 to imprisonment for not less than 10 years and not exceeding 20 years.

7 (ii) The court may not impose less than the minimum sentence  
8 of 10 years.

9 (iii) A sentence imposed under this paragraph shall be  
10 consecutive to and not concurrent with any other sentence imposed for the felony or  
11 crime of violence.

12 **(C) (1) A PERSON WHO USES AN ASSAULT LONG GUN OR A COPYCAT**  
13 **WEAPON IN THE COMMISSION OF A FELONY OR A CRIME OF VIOLENCE AS**  
14 **DEFINED IN § 5–101 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE IS GUILTY OF A**  
15 **MISDEMEANOR AND ON CONVICTION, IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER SENTENCE**  
16 **IMPOSED FOR THE FELONY OR CRIME OF VIOLENCE, SHALL BE SENTENCED**  
17 **UNDER THIS SUBSECTION.**

18 **(2) FOR A FIRST VIOLATION, THE PERSON SHALL BE SENTENCED**  
19 **TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 20 YEARS.**

20 **(3) (I) FOR EACH SUBSEQUENT VIOLATION, THE PERSON**  
21 **SHALL BE SENTENCED TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 20 YEARS.**

22 **(II) A SENTENCE IMPOSED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL**  
23 **BE CONSECUTIVE TO AND NOT CONCURRENT WITH ANY OTHER SENTENCE**  
24 **IMPOSED FOR THE FELONY OR CRIME OF VIOLENCE.**

25 **Article – Public Safety**

26 5–101.

27 (p) “Regulated firearm” means:

28 (1) a handgun; or

29 (2) a firearm that:

30 **(I) IS LAWFULLY POSSESSED BY A LICENSED FIREARMS**  
31 **DEALER ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2010, AND THAT MAY BE LAWFULLY**

1 **POSSESSED, SOLD, OFFERED FOR SALE, OR TRANSFERRED BY THE LICENSED**  
 2 **FIREARMS DEALER UNDER § 4-303 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE; AND**

3 (II) is any of the following specific assault weapons [or their  
 4 copies], regardless of which company produced and manufactured that assault  
 5 weapon:

- 6 [(i)] 1. American Arms Spectre da Semiautomatic  
 7 carbine;
- 8 [(ii)] 2. AK-47 in all forms;
- 9 [(iii)] 3. Algimec AGM-1 type semi-auto;
- 10 [(iv)] 4. AR 100 type semi-auto;
- 11 [(v)] 5. AR 180 type semi-auto;
- 12 [(vi)] 6. Argentine L.S.R. semi-auto;
- 13 [(vii)] 7. Australian Automatic Arms SAR type  
 14 semi-auto;
- 15 [(viii)] 8. Auto-Ordnance Thompson M1 and 1927  
 16 semi-automatics;
- 17 [(ix)] 9. Barrett light .50 cal. semi-auto;
- 18 [(x)] 10. Beretta AR70 type semi-auto;
- 19 [(xi)] 11. Bushmaster semi-auto rifle;
- 20 [(xii)] 12. Calico models M-100 and M-900;
- 21 [(xiii)] 13. CIS SR 88 type semi-auto;
- 22 [(xiv)] 14. Claridge HI TEC C-9 carbines;
- 23 [(xv)] 15. Colt AR-15, CAR-15, and all imitations except  
 24 Colt AR-15 Sporter H-BAR rifle;
- 25 [(xvi)] 16. Daewoo MAX 1 and MAX 2, aka AR 100, 110C,  
 26 K-1, and K-2;
- 27 [(xvii)] 17. Dragunov Chinese made semi-auto;

- 1 [(xviii)] 18. Famas semi-auto (.223 caliber);
- 2 [(xix)] 19. Feather AT-9 semi-auto;
- 3 [(xx)] 20. FN LAR and FN FAL assault rifle;
- 4 [(xxi)] 21. FNC semi-auto type carbine;
- 5 [(xxii)] 22. F.I.E./Franchi LAW 12 and SPAS 12 assault  
6 shotgun;
- 7 [(xxiii)] 23. Steyr-AUG-SA semi-auto;
- 8 [(xxiv)] 24. Galil models AR and ARM semi-auto;
- 9 [(xxv)] 25. Heckler and Koch HK-91 A3, HK-93 A2,  
10 HK-94 A2 and A3;
- 11 [(xxvi)] 26. Holmes model 88 shotgun;
- 12 [(xxvii)] 27. Avtomat Kalashnikov semiautomatic rifle in  
13 any format;
- 14 [(xxviii)] 28. Manchester Arms "Commando" MK-45, MK-9;
- 15 [(xxix)] 29. Mandell TAC-1 semi-auto carbine;
- 16 [(xxx)] 30. Mossberg model 500 Bullpup assault shotgun;
- 17 [(xxxi)] 31. Sterling Mark 6;
- 18 [(xxxii)] 32. P.A.W.S. carbine;
- 19 [(xxxiii)] 33. Ruger mini-14 folding stock model (.223  
20 caliber);
- 21 [(xxxiv)] 34. SIG 550/551 assault rifle (.223 caliber);
- 22 [(xxxv)] 35. SKS with detachable magazine;
- 23 [(xxxvi)] 36. AP-74 Commando type semi-auto;
- 24 [(xxxvii)] 37. Springfield Armory BM-59, SAR-48, G3,  
25 SAR-3, M-21 sniper rifle, M1A, excluding the M1 Garand;
- 26 [(xxxviii)] 38. Street sweeper assault type shotgun;

- 1                    [(xxxix)]    **39.**    Striker 12 assault shotgun in all formats;
- 2                    [(xl)]        **40.**    Unique F11 semi-auto type;
- 3                    [(xli)]       **41.**    Daewoo USAS 12 semi-auto shotgun;
- 4                    [(xlii)]      **42.**    UZI 9mm carbine or rifle;
- 5                    [(xliii)]     **43.**    Valmet M-76 and M-78 semi-auto;
- 6                    [(xliv)]      **44.**    Weaver Arms "Nighthawk" semi-auto carbine;
- 7    or
- 8                    [(xlv)]       **45.**    Wilkinson Arms 9mm semi-auto "Terry".

9                    SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
10                    October 1, 2010.