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### **Marylanders to Prevent Gun Violence Statement on Final Passage of Governor Martin O'Malley's Firearms Safety Act of 2013**

**ANNAPOLIS, MD** (April 4, 2013) – Vincent DeMarco, President of Marylanders to Prevent Gun Violence released the following statement after final passage of the Firearms Safety Act of 2013.

*"The Maryland General Assembly just passed one of the most effective and life-saving tools to reduce gun violence that should become a model for other states," said Vincent DeMarco, President of Marylanders to Prevent Gun Violence.*

*"We commend Governor Martin O'Malley for his leadership and members of the Maryland General Assembly for their historic and courageous vote.*

*"In the post-Newtown era, the State of Maryland has provided a model for common-sense gun violence prevention legislation to take illegal guns off of our streets through fingerprint licensing of handgun purchasers, ban military-style assault weapons, and limit high-capacity magazines to 10 rounds.*

*"Most importantly, research conducted by the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research show that by requiring fingerprint licensing of handgun purchasers, the new Maryland law will make it much harder for criminals and others who should not have handguns to get them. Research and data from other states shows that fingerprint licensing will deter straw purchases of guns and thereby reduce gun violence in Maryland and surrounding states.*

*"As we have seen in states like New York and New Jersey, states with a fingerprint licensing requirement have lower gun death rates. Other states interested in reducing gun violence should follow Maryland's lead and enact this common-sense legislation."*

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