

Submitter: Rachel Freed

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB696

I am writing to express my strong opposition to SB 696, which seeks to create the crime of unlawful transport, manufacture, or transfer of a rapid fire activator. While I understand the concerns surrounding gun violence and the need for responsible firearm regulation, I believe this legislation is misguided and could lead to unintended consequences that undermine the rights of law-abiding citizens.

First and foremost, this bill could unfairly penalize individuals who legally own firearms and accessories. The term "rapid fire activator" is vague and could encompass a wide range of devices, leaving room for misinterpretation and misuse of the law. Citizens who use such devices responsibly and within the bounds of the law could find themselves unjustly targeted, facing criminal charges for actions that do not pose a threat to public safety.

Furthermore, this legislation does not adequately address the root causes of gun violence. Rather than focusing on the accessories or modifications to firearms, we should prioritize comprehensive strategies that address mental health issues, promote responsible gun ownership, and enhance community safety. Targeting specific devices may provide a false sense of security while failing to tackle the broader issues contributing to gun violence.

Additionally, creating new criminal offenses can lead to an overburdened legal system and may divert resources away from more pressing public safety concerns. Law enforcement should focus on enforcing existing laws and addressing violent crime rather than pursuing individuals for the lawful possession or use of firearm accessories.

In conclusion, I urge you to oppose SB 696. This legislation could have serious implications for responsible gun owners and does not effectively address the underlying issues of gun violence. Let us pursue solutions that enhance public safety without infringing on the rights of law-abiding citizens.

Thank you for considering my views on this important issue.