

Submitter:

Chelsea Bearden

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB696

I strongly oppose SB 696 because it is yet another step toward government overreach that criminalizes lawful firearm ownership and accessories without clear, evidence-based justification. This bill would create the crime of “unlawful transport, manufacture, or transfer of a rapid fire activator,” but offers vague definitions that risk sweeping up responsible gun owners and hobbyists into unnecessary legal trouble.

“Rapid fire activator” is a broad and ambiguous term that could be interpreted to include a range of legal firearm accessories, from binary triggers to competition devices that are widely used in sport shooting and by collectors. Instead of targeting criminal misuse, SB 696 casts a wide net that penalizes lawful behavior and ignores the fact that accessories don’t cause violence—people do.

This legislation won’t stop violent crime—it will only restrict the rights of law-abiding citizens, create confusion in enforcement, and open the door to selective prosecution. We already have laws against the criminal misuse of firearms. Adding yet another poorly defined offense does nothing but burden responsible gun owners, many of whom are veterans, sportsmen, and trained civilians.

I urge lawmakers to oppose SB 696 and focus on real solutions that address violent crime at its source, not knee-jerk legislation that chips away at our Second Amendment rights.