

Submitter: Seth Kezar
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB696

Dear Senate Committee On Judiciary,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed legislation that would create the crime of unlawful transport, manufacture, or transfer of a rapid-fire activator. While I understand the intent behind this proposal, I believe it is essential to carefully consider its potential unintended consequences and the broader implications for individual rights and firearm ownership.

First, the definition of what constitutes a “rapid-fire activator” remains vague, and such imprecision could lead to significant confusion in the enforcement of the law. A broad or unclear definition may result in responsible firearm owners inadvertently falling victim to criminal charges. The risk of overreach is a concern, especially when dealing with a broad array of accessories that may or may not be considered “rapid-fire activators.” As a result, law-abiding citizens could face legal challenges for actions that do not align with the intended goals of public safety.

Additionally, the criminalization of such devices may disproportionately impact lawful gun owners and manufacturers without effectively addressing the root causes of gun violence. It is critical to focus on policies that target actual criminal behavior rather than penalizing responsible individuals who are abiding by existing laws. Efforts to curtail the misuse of firearms should focus on strengthening background checks, addressing illegal trafficking, and providing mental health support, rather than further restricting the rights of those who use firearms for legitimate purposes.

The legal framework should not create undue burden on law-abiding individuals, especially when the proposed law is unlikely to have a meaningful impact on public safety. Instead, we should focus on policies that can ensure effective enforcement while also respecting the Second Amendment rights of individuals.

I urge you to reconsider the language and scope of this proposed legislation and explore alternative approaches that better address the complex issues surrounding firearms and gun violence. It is vital that we focus on measures that protect both public safety and individual freedoms.

Thank you for considering my perspective on this matter. I am happy to discuss this issue further and provide any additional input.