

Submitter:

Jeff Conant

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB696

I oppose SB696 because there are already a clear set of Federal laws that outlaw actual machine guns. There are certain instances where owning a machine gun is legal per the NFA, however it is very cost-prohibitive and there are lengthy processes required to obtain one. These laws were painstakingly determined by many court hearings, legal proceedings and with expert witnesses who understand better than most the functionality of a machine-gun or other firearm components. The term "rapid fire activator" is a dubious term that is used to mislead and create confusion among those who have a limited understanding of firearms. It also serves only to further punish gun owners who owned something that was legal at the time it was acquired. It is important to consider that crimes are seldom committed with legally owned "rapid fire activator" devices. If we are aiming to curb violence committed with firearms, then the best possible outcome here is that very little to nothing is accomplished.

Meanwhile, the root causes of most violence with firearms are completely overlooked. Straw purchases are one of those root causes, statistically speaking. Updating the penalties for straw purchases of guns should be the first thing we consider and it is not listed anywhere to be found amongst these recent bills, quite surprisingly.

Thank you,  
Jeff