

Submitter: Tony Bush  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB696

Dear Chair and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 696, which seeks to create the state crime of unlawful transport, manufacture, or transfer of a so-called “rapid fire activator.” While I understand the desire to address public safety concerns, SB 696 is a deeply flawed bill that creates confusion, misuses language, and imposes unnecessary burdens on law-abiding Oregonians.

First, the bill introduces a state-level misdemeanor offense for conduct that, if truly criminal under federal law, would already be prosecuted as a felony. This contradiction weakens the integrity of both state and federal legal frameworks and needlessly complicates enforcement. Additionally, the bill targets devices that are federally legal, widely owned, and commonly used in lawful activities such as sport shooting, firearms competitions, and adaptive use by individuals with disabilities. The use of vague and sensationalized terms like “rapid fire activator” serves only to stigmatize legal conduct and misinform the public.

Responsible gun owners in Oregon should not face criminal charges for possessing or transferring legally recognized devices. This bill does nothing to deter actual criminal behavior, and instead puts ordinary citizens at risk of prosecution for actions they had no reason to believe were problematic. I urge you to reject SB 696 and focus legislative efforts on clear, enforceable laws that target intentional misuse of firearms—not the legal ownership or transfer of accessories already regulated under federal law.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,  
Tony Bush  
Portland, Or