

Submitter: Erik Rogers

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB243

Dear Members of the Oregon Legislature,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 243. While I understand the desire to address firearm related violence, this bill is a misguided overreach that punishes responsible, law abiding citizens and infringes on our constitutional rights.

SB 243 criminalizes the mere possession of certain firearm accessories, so called "rapid fire activators," regardless of whether they've been misused. Many of these accessories are currently owned by responsible gun owners who have committed no crimes. Turning them into criminals overnight through vague and sweeping legislation is not just bad policy, it is unconstitutional.

The Second Amendment is clear. The right to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed. The courts have repeatedly affirmed that this includes not only firearms, but also commonly used accessories that improve function or performance, provided they do not convert a firearm into an illegal weapon. Many of the items targeted by this bill, such as forced reset triggers, do not turn firearms into machine guns and are not classified as such by federal law. Criminalizing them at the state level undermines both due process and equal protection under the law.

To put it plainly, this bill would be like making it a felony to own a sport tuned exhaust system on your personal vehicle because someone else once drove recklessly with one. The tool isn't the problem, the behavior is. We don't ban tools. We hold people accountable for their actions. SB 243 flips that principle on its head and targets ownership itself, not misuse.

I urge you to consider the real world impact of this bill. It does not address crime. It criminalizes ordinary Oregonians who have done nothing wrong.

Please vote NO on SB 243. Uphold your oath to defend the Constitution. Focus on laws that target criminals, not those who follow the law.

Respectfully,  
Erik Rogers