I am opposed to the homemade weapon ban of HB910.

The entire body of current gun laws are crafted to protect gun owners from government control. Home built firearms are an option for ownership that is more secure from confiscation. We know that is a goal of some. The second amendment is meant as one of the checks and balances on government. Even if our current legislators mean well, once the people's means of raw power has been taken away it will never be restored, leaving the door open for a future tyrant to oppress.

My second reason to oppose a ban on homemade guns is that it is unfair and ineffective. It is already illegal for a prohibited person to possess a firearm whether homemade or not. The ability to trace homemade guns that are obtained during arrests could be easy to accomplish and would allow personal use just as the federal laws do. Marking a homemade gun with the builder's name, hometown, and serial number would give exactly the same tracing ability that exists with federally licensed manufacturers. Creating a registration system would not even be necessary if the builder's driver's license must match what is on the firearm. Perhaps this was the intent, but the wording now would trigger the full licensing requirements of a for profit mass production manufacturing facility.

Obviously the vast majority of people who own guns never hurt anybody. Most hobbyists who build a gun already have store bought guns which required a background check to purchase. Between scouts, coaching, work, and previous firearms purchases I have had dozens of background checks. It is unfair to demand that thousands of law abiding hobbyists like me give up valuable possessions which cost hours of careful labor or face years in jail. One last point: the committee should seriously consider an unintended consequence of the bill as written. Since it is well established that other bans on homemade guns have had low compliance, note that making possession illegal will strongly **dis-incentivize** reporting of stolen homemade guns.

Thanks for your time. I strongly urge the committee to return an unfavorable report. Matt Morrison Leonardtown, MD