

HOUSE BILL 577

E1

6lr1037
CF SB 334

By: **Delegates Williams, Coley, Embry, Ivey, Lopez, Moreno, Pasteur, Phillips,
Ruff, Simmons, Simpson, Taylor, Toles, and Young**

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2026

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Law – Firearm Crimes – Machine Gun Convertible Pistols**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting, on or after a certain date, a person from manufacturing,
4 selling, offering for sale, purchasing, receiving, or transferring a certain machine gun
5 convertible pistol, subject to certain exceptions; and generally relating to firearm
6 crimes.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

8 Article – Criminal Law

9 Section 4–301(a) and 4–306

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

12 BY adding to

13 Article – Criminal Law

14 Section 4–301(m) and (n) and 4–305.2

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

17 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

18 Article – Criminal Law

19 Section 4–301(m) through (o) and 4–302

20 Annotated Code of Maryland

21 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

22 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

23 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

24 **Article – Criminal Law**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 4-301.

2 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

3 (M) (1) “MACHINE GUN CONVERTIBLE PISTOL” MEANS ANY
4 SEMIAUTOMATIC PISTOL WITH A CRUCIFORM TRIGGER BAR THAT CAN BE READILY
5 CONVERTED BY HAND OR BY USING COMMON HOUSEHOLD TOOLS INTO A MACHINE
6 GUN BY THE INSTALLATION OR ATTACHMENT OF A PISTOL CONVERTER AS A
7 REPLACEMENT FOR THE SLIDE’S BACKPLATE WITHOUT ANY ADDITIONAL
8 ENGINEERING, MACHINING, OR MODIFICATION OF THE PISTOL’S TRIGGER
9 MECHANISM.

10 (2) “MACHINE GUN CONVERTIBLE PISTOL” INCLUDES A PISTOL WITH
11 A CRUCIFORM TRIGGER BAR AND A POLYMER NOTCH OR OTHER PIECE OF POLYMER
12 MOLDED INTO THE REAR OF THE PISTOL FRAME WHERE A PISTOL CONVERTER CAN
13 BE ATTACHED OR INSTALLED.

14 (3) “MACHINE GUN CONVERTIBLE PISTOL” DOES NOT INCLUDE A
15 HAMMER-FIRED SEMIAUTOMATIC PISTOL OR A STRIKER-FIRED SEMIAUTOMATIC
16 PISTOL WITHOUT A CRUCIFORM TRIGGER BAR, WHICH INSTEAD HAS A TRIGGER BAR
17 THAT IS SHIELDED FROM INTERFERENCE BY A PISTOL CONVERTER.

18 (N) (1) “PISTOL CONVERTER” MEANS ANY DEVICE OR INSTRUMENT
19 THAT, WHEN INSTALLED IN OR ATTACHED TO THE REAR OF THE SLIDE OF A
20 SEMIAUTOMATIC PISTOL, REPLACES THE BACKPLATE AND INTERFERES WITH THE
21 TRIGGER MECHANISM, WHICH ENABLES THE PISTOL TO SHOOT AUTOMATICALLY
22 MORE THAN ONE SHOT BY A SINGLE FUNCTION OF THE TRIGGER.

23 (2) “PISTOL CONVERTER” INCLUDES A PISTOL CONVERTER
24 MANUFACTURED USING A THREE-DIMENSIONAL PRINTER.

25 [(m)] (O) (1) “Rapid fire activator” means any device, including a removable
26 manual or power-driven activating device, constructed so that, when installed in or
27 attached to a firearm:

28 (i) the rate at which the trigger is activated increases; or

29 (ii) the rate of fire increases.

30 (2) “Rapid fire activator” includes a bump stock, trigger crank, hellfire
31 trigger, binary trigger system, burst trigger system, switch/auto-sear, **PISTOL**
32 **CONVERTER**, or a copy or a similar device, regardless of the producer or manufacturer.

33 (3) “Rapid fire activator” does not include a semiautomatic replacement
34 trigger that improves the performance and functionality over the stock trigger.

1 [(n)] (P) “Switch/auto–sear” means a device that applies force to a firearm’s
2 trigger bar to prevent it from limiting the weapon to firing only one round each time the
3 trigger is depressed.

4 [(o)] (Q) “Trigger crank” means a device that, when installed in or attached to a
5 firearm, repeatedly activates the trigger of the firearm through the use of a crank, a lever,
6 or any other part that is turned in a circular motion.

7 4–302.

8 This subtitle does not apply to:

9 (1) if acting within the scope of official business, personnel of the United
10 States government or a unit of that government, members of the armed forces of the United
11 States or of the National Guard, law enforcement personnel of the State or a local unit in
12 the State, or a railroad police officer authorized under Title 3 of the Public Safety Article
13 or 49 U.S.C. § 28101;

14 (2) a firearm modified to render it permanently inoperative;

15 (3) possession, importation, manufacture, receipt for manufacture,
16 shipment for manufacture, storage, purchases, sales, and transport to or by a licensed
17 firearms dealer or manufacturer who is:

18 (i) providing or servicing an assault weapon [or], A detachable
19 magazine, **OR A MACHINE GUN CONVERTIBLE PISTOL** for a law enforcement unit or for
20 personnel exempted under item (1) of this section;

21 (ii) acting to sell or transfer an assault weapon [or], A detachable
22 magazine, **OR A MACHINE GUN CONVERTIBLE PISTOL** to a licensed firearm dealer in
23 another state or to an individual purchaser in another state through a licensed firearms
24 dealer; or

25 (iii) acting to return to a customer in another state an assault weapon
26 **OR A MACHINE GUN CONVERTIBLE PISTOL** transferred to the licensed firearms dealer
27 or manufacturer under the terms of a warranty or for repair;

28 (4) organizations that are required or authorized by federal law governing
29 their specific business or activity to maintain assault weapons and applicable ammunition
30 [and], detachable magazines, **AND MACHINE GUN CONVERTIBLE PISTOLS**;

31 (5) the receipt of an assault weapon [or], A detachable magazine, **OR A**
32 **MACHINE GUN CONVERTIBLE PISTOL** by inheritance, and possession of the inherited
33 assault weapon [or], detachable magazine, **OR MACHINE GUN CONVERTIBLE PISTOL**, if
34 the decedent lawfully possessed the assault weapon [or], detachable magazine, **OR**

MACHINE GUN CONVERTIBLE PISTOL and the person inheriting the assault weapon [or], detachable magazine, **OR MACHINE GUN CONVERTIBLE PISTOL** is not otherwise disqualified from possessing a regulated firearm;

(6) the receipt of an assault weapon [or], A detachable magazine, **OR A MACHINE GUN CONVERTIBLE PISTOL** by a personal representative of an estate for purposes of exercising the powers and duties of a personal representative of an estate;

(7) possession by a person who is retired in good standing from service with a law enforcement agency of the State or a local unit in the State and is not otherwise prohibited from receiving an assault weapon [or], detachable magazine, **OR MACHINE GUN CONVERTIBLE PISTOL** if:

(i) the assault weapon [or], detachable magazine, **OR MACHINE GUN CONVERTIBLE PISTOL** is sold or transferred to the person by the law enforcement agency on retirement; or

(ii) the assault weapon [or], detachable magazine, **OR MACHINE GUN CONVERTIBLE PISTOL** was purchased or obtained by the person for official use with the law enforcement agency before retirement;

(8) possession or transport by an employee of an armored car company if the individual is acting within the scope of employment and has a permit issued under Title 5, Subtitle 3 of the Public Safety Article; [or]

(9) possession, receipt, and testing by, or shipping to or from:

(i) an ISO 17025 accredited, National Institute of Justice–approved ballistics testing laboratory; or

(ii) a facility or entity that manufactures or provides research and development testing, analysis, or engineering for personal protective equipment or vehicle protection systems;

(10) THE TEMPORARY TRANSFER OF A MACHINE GUN CONVERTIBLE PISTOL TO A LICENSED REGULATED FIREARMS DEALER OR GUNSMITH FOR THE PURPOSE OF SERVICING THE MACHINE GUN CONVERTIBLE PISTOL;

(11) THE RECEIPT OF A MACHINE GUN CONVERTIBLE PISTOL BY A LICENSED REGULATED FIREARMS DEALER OR GUNSMITH FOR THE PURPOSE OF SERVICING THE MACHINE GUN CONVERTIBLE PISTOL AND THE RETURN OF THE MACHINE GUN CONVERTIBLE PISTOL TO ITS LAWFUL OWNER BY A LICENSED REGULATED FIREARMS DEALER OR GUNSMITH ON THE COMPLETION OF SERVICING THE MACHINE GUN CONVERTIBLE PISTOL; OR

(12) THE RECEIPT OF A MACHINE GUN CONVERTIBLE PISTOL BY A LAW ENFORCEMENT UNIT, BARRACKS, OR STATION, A STATE OR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY, OR A FEDERALLY LICENSED FIREARMS DEALER IF THE PERSON IS SURRENDERING THE FIREARM.

4-305.2.

(A) ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2027, A PERSON MAY NOT MANUFACTURE, SELL, OFFER FOR SALE, PURCHASE, RECEIVE, OR TRANSFER A MACHINE GUN CONVERTIBLE PISTOL.

(B) THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION, INCLUDING PUBLISHING A LIST OF PROHIBITED MACHINE GUN CONVERTIBLE PISTOLS.

4-306.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, a person who violates this subtitle is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding 3 years or a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or both.

(b) (1) A person who uses an assault weapon, a rapid fire activator, or a magazine that has a capacity of more than 10 rounds of ammunition, in the commission of a felony or a crime of violence as defined in § 5-101 of the Public Safety Article is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction, in addition to any other sentence imposed for the felony or crime of violence, shall be sentenced under this subsection.

(2) (i) For a first violation, the person shall be sentenced to imprisonment for not less than 5 years and not exceeding 20 years.

(ii) The court may not impose less than the minimum sentence of 5 years.

(iii) The mandatory minimum sentence of 5 years may not be suspended.

(iv) Except as otherwise provided in § 4-305 of the Correctional Services Article, the person is not eligible for parole in less than 5 years.

(3) (i) For each subsequent violation, the person shall be sentenced to imprisonment for not less than 10 years and not exceeding 20 years.

(ii) The court may not impose less than the minimum sentence of 10 years.

1 (iii) A sentence imposed under this paragraph shall be consecutive to
2 and not concurrent with any other sentence imposed for the felony or crime of violence.

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
4 October 1, 2026.