

Bill Number: HB 810
Scott D. Shellenberger, State's Attorney for Baltimore County
Support

WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF SCOTT D. SHELLENBERGER,
STATE'S ATTORNEY FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY,
IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 810
RAPID-FIRE ACTIVATOR – SWITCH/AUTO-SEAR

I write in support of House Bill 810 as a much needed addition to Maryland laws to make unlawful a very dangerous device that can turn a regular gun into a machine gun. This change will also bring us more in line with current prohibitions under Federal law.

The State of Maryland has a long established history of outlawing machine guns, assault long guns and assault pistols. This body has also stayed current every time a new device is invented (i.e. bump stocks) and takes action to keep up with new inventions and trends. House Bill 810 does what we have always done, keep up with the new and dangerous weapons and inventions and make them illegal.

The devices in question are relatively cheap, easy to install but make a regular gun extremely dangerous. By taking out the word "trigger" in the law we are now covering any type of rapid fire activator device whether they are a trigger activator or other mechanism that bypasses needing to pull the trigger each time.

By changing the definitions as now drafted the current version of these devices will now be outlawed.

I urge a favorable report.