



### **House Bill 1287** **Criminal Law - Firearm Crimes - Convertible Pistols** **UNFAVORABLE**

The Glock family of pistols are approved by the Maryland Handgun Roster Board established under House Bill 1131 Handguns - Prohibition of Manufacture and Sale 1988 Session. The General Assembly saw fit to trust the integrity and judgement of the Roster Board. The Legislature could have, but opted not to, include language allowing the removal of previously approved firearms.

During the 2018 Session, the General Assembly enacted SB 707 Criminal Law – Firearm Crimes – Rapid Fire Trigger Activator which banned certain aftermarket accessories which could increase the rate of fire in some firearms. The General Assembly did not seek to ban the actual firearms.

Last Session, the General Assembly enacted HB 810 - Criminal Law - Rapid-Fire Activator - Switch/Auto-Sear which targeted the already federally illegal device commonly known as a “Glock Switch.”

Now, nearly four decades later, members of the House of Delegates, aided by attorneys and lobbyists employed by an out of state gun ban group have seen fit to question the judgement of their predecessors.

Predictably, criminals thumbed their noses at the Legislature and both SB 707 and HB 810. Instead of imposing harsh penalties on criminals, the sponsors decided to respond by offering House Bill 1287 which seeks to punish the law-abiding citizens by imposing a ban on the same legal firearms carried by law enforcement officers across the nation.

Exactly, how this new draconian measure will reduce the number of Glock pistols available to criminals is something the sponsors should explain. How will HB 1287 succeed when SB 707 and HB 804 both failed to live up to the lofty claims voiced by the sponsors’ in 2018 and 2024?

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Based upon the definition of “convertible pistol” the ban will apply to any pistol which now or at some future date can be modified by the utilization of a device which may become available now or at some future date. HB 1287 is silent on which agency will be responsible for reviewing the 300 plus pages of firearms currently on the Maryland Handgun Roster. Nor does it identify which agency will analyze the physical configuration of each pistol to determine whether it too, will become another firearm banned in Maryland.

It is an accepted tenant that nothing in politics is a coincidence. The Maryland General Assembly PDF HB 1278 Criminal Law - Firearms Crimes - Convertible Pistols was created on February 6, 2025 @ 3:11 pm and modified on February 7, 2025 @ 5:23 pm.

Less than one week later on February 12, 2025, the Baltimore City Council and Maryland Attorney General supported by Everytown Law, filed a lawsuit against Glock. The PDF of the lawsuit was created on February 11, 2025 @ 8:05 pm. Curiously, the Attorney General’s press release clearly states the so-called “Glock Switch” modifications are illegal.

While there is no hard evidence, the near coincidence of dates and the striking similarity in the subject matter and core intent of the two documents is difficult to dismiss as mere happenstance. It does appear that House Bill 1287 and the lawsuit against Glock are a coordinated effort.

If HB 1287 becomes law, the net result will be more thefts of lawfully owned firearms and better business opportunities for the illegal traffickers in the so-called “Iron Pipeline.”

We strongly urge an unfavorable report on House Bill 1287.

Respectfully,

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2A Maryland  
03/05/2025  
Attachments (see next page)

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HB 1287 Attachment Contents:

Public Safety §5-401-406 Handgun Roster Board 1988 Session HB 1131  
Maryland Handgun Roster – January 2024  
AG Press Release & Lawsuit  
2018 Session SB 0707  
2024 Session HB 0810