



HB 1287 Criminal Law - Firearm Crimes - Convertible Pistols

UNFAVORABLE

The Maryland State Rifle & Pistol Association (MSRPA) opposes HB 1287. This bill would prohibit the manufacture, sale, purchase or transfer of any semiautomatic pistol that can be converted into a machine gun solely by the attachment of a switch/auto-sear.

Switches/auto-sears were banned last year (HB 810 Criminal Law - Rapid-Fire Activator - Switch/Auto-Sear) and now the Maryland legislature seeks to ban semiautomatic pistols that could be "modified" into a machine gun by attaching an illegal switch/auto-sear.

Earlier this month, Maryland and the city of Baltimore filed a lawsuit against Glock, Inc. claiming that Glock pistols are "easily modified" with auto sears to fire fully automatic. These devices, overwhelmingly manufactured in China or 3D-printed by criminals, are already illegal under federal and now state law. But instead of enforcing existing laws and going after those who possess these devices, Baltimore and Maryland officials have chosen to sue the company that had nothing to do with their proliferation.

Ironically, Glock pistols are sidearms used by law enforcement agencies across the country, including in Baltimore. If HB 1287 passes, will Baltimore be prohibited from arming their police force with Glocks or other semiautomatic firearms?

If the legislature was serious about public safety, they would be targeting those who illegally obtain and use firearms, not the companies that lawfully manufacture and sell them. This is a blatant attempt to undermine the firearms industry and erode our Second Amendment rights.

The MSRPA respectfully requests an UNFAVORABLE report on HB 1287.

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The MSRPA is the official National Rifle Association state organization for Maryland. The MSRPA's mission is to defend our rights in Maryland, support training in firearm safety and shooting skills through its affiliated clubs, and sponsor and sanction local competition throughout the state.