

DATE: March 5, 2025
BILL: HB 1287
POSITION: Favorable

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today in support of House Bill 1287. My name is Greg Lickenbrock, and I am Everytown for Gun Safety's senior firearms analyst.

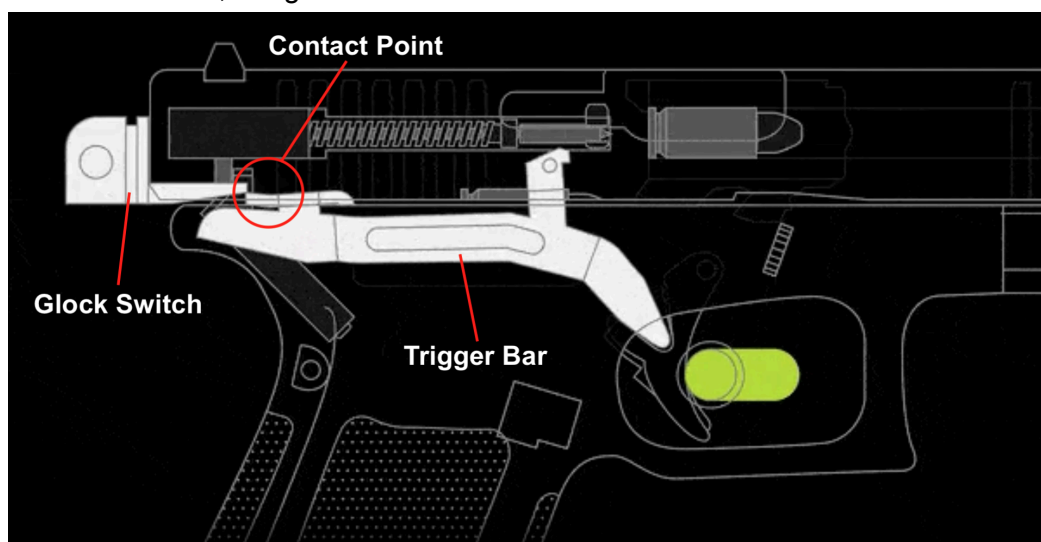
Before joining Everytown, I spent a decade working in the gun industry as a magazine editor, which gave me the opportunity to test hundreds of firearms, attend media events and training courses, and meet people working at every level of the firearms industry. I am also a gun owner and have worked extensively with Glock and its products.

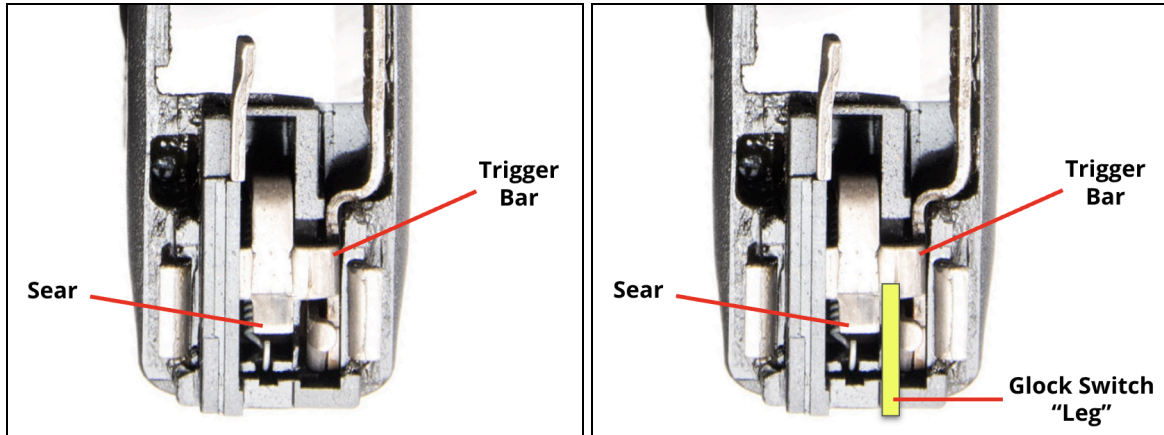
"Glock switches" are tiny third-party devices that cost as little as \$25, are easily 3D printed, and can be installed on the back of a Glock's slide in seconds. Once in place, a switch allows a shooter to hold down the trigger and fire dozens of shots in the blink of an eye.



A switch has been added to the back of this Glock's slide, or top half.

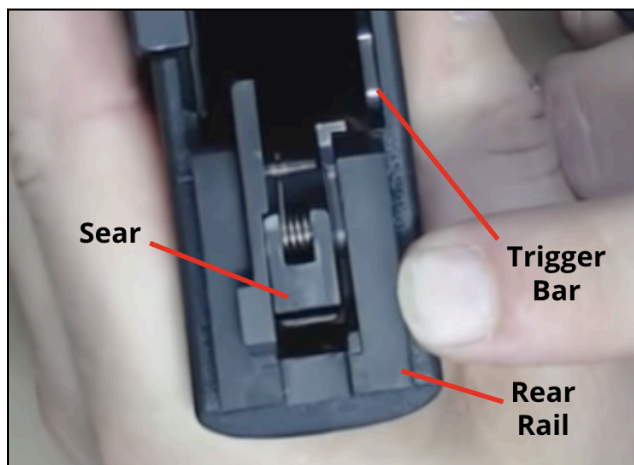
Glock's pistol design is uniquely easy to convert into a machine gun because of the trigger bar, which provides surface area for the Glock switch to contact, as shown in the illustration below. Each time the gun's slide returns forward, the Glock switch's "leg" impacts the trigger bar and pushes it downward, causing the gun to fire. As long as the shooter depresses the trigger and the gun has ammunition, the gun will continue to fire.





Top-down views show the cross-shaped trigger bar inside a Glock and where a Glock switch (shown in yellow) pushes the trigger bar downward, causing the gun to fire.

The only handguns that have this problem are those that use Glock-style trigger bars, including Polymer80 ghost guns. Other pistols made by the largest manufacturers — including Smith & Wesson, Sig Sauer, Taurus, and others — would require extensive engineering to convert into machine guns because their trigger bars are broken into smaller, disparate components that are shielded from interference.



It would require extensive engineering to add a switch to a Springfield XD pistol.

Glock has reportedly known about this problem since around 1987, when the man who invented the first Glock switch met with the company's founder to show him his design. But Glock has publicly insisted that it cannot fix the problem — even after Glock switches have been used in recent mass shootings in Fresno, Sacramento, Chicago, Mobile, Dadeville, Boston, Philadelphia, Memphis, Detroit, Birmingham, and Tuskegee. Further, between 2019 and 2023, police across the country recovered over 11,000 machine gun conversion devices, including Glock switches.

While Glock switches are already prohibited on the state and federal levels, they are still easy to obtain. By prohibiting the sale of easily convertible pistols, House Bill 1287 would make it harder for criminals and others intent on harm to obtain fully automatic weapons.