



Testimony of Layla Greten, Team ENOUGH
Support for SB 334 [FAV]
Before the Maryland Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
February 5, 2025

Dear Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and esteemed members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Layla Greten. I am a high school student at Archbishop Spalding High School and the founder of a local Team ENOUGH chapter, a youth-led initiative under Brady United Against Gun Violence. I am writing to voice my support for SB 334. As the President of Team ENOUGH Baltimore, I oversee nearly 50 students across Maryland and multiple school chapters, with a shared passion and commitment to gun violence prevention.

SB 334 will require all pistols sold in the state of Maryland to be designed in a way that they cannot be easily converted into automatic weapons by the use of “auto-sears,” also known as Glock switches. It is important to note that these “auto-sears” are banned on both the state and federal levels. However, because these devices are readily available to be bought illegally or can be easily 3D printed, they are an emerging threat to communities in Maryland. This small converting device can be installed in minutes and transform a firearm into a weapon that shoots continuously with one trigger pull, with the ability to fire 1,200 continuous rounds in one minute.

The truth is, having the opportunity to add a switch to a firearm amplifies harm in an instrumental way. Attaching a switch dramatically increases the opportunity for injury and eliminates the safeguards existing on handguns that prevent harm. A shooter no longer has to pull and release the trigger repeatedly, giving them a much faster rate of fire. This escalates violent situations and results in increasingly deadly outcomes for innocent bystanders and victims. Individuals in crisis and without training should not be able to create automatic weapons with simply a 3D printer and a screwdriver.

In 2023, a suspect fired at police officers during a shootout near Patterson Park. The suspect had a modified Glock and was able to shoot 33 rounds. By removing these converted pistols from the world around us, we are not only protecting our communities but also our law enforcement officers. With an increased number of automatic weapons, our officers are at increased risk of being caught, literally in the crossfire, of these dangerous firearms. What is even more alarming is that a majority of the individuals thought to be connected to these incidents are under the age of 21. My generation has been impacted the most by this crisis. Young people are both the primary victims and perpetrators. The accessibility of these deadly weapons, combined with inadequate education and intervention, has created a dangerous cycle. I have the privilege of focusing on my future instead of living in fear of being drawn into

gun violence. So many of my peers do not have this privilege. Without urgent action, more of these convertible pistols will fall into the hands of Maryland's youth, exacting even more of a toll on our society.

As a young student, I decided to conduct a quick experiment to see how accessible it would be for someone in my generation to modify a pistol. With about two Google searches, one can find a list of easily modified pistols. It only takes a few more to end up on pages where people post details about how to modify these pistols, and even pages where people post the 3D designs needed. The entire search process took me less than 10 minutes, emphasizing the accessibility of these deadly features and how easy it could be for a violent individual to go down this route.

Thankfully, there is a solution- easy design changes, and it is the responsibility of the firearms manufacturers to take this action. The companies are aware of the convertible nature of their firearms and have chosen not to make design changes. This industry rakes in billions in profit every year while our communities and students reap the consequences. By allowing for the installation of illegal modifications, it is evident that these industries are more focused on prioritizing profits than public safety. This bill simply mandates that manufacturers take responsibility and make reasonable changes to their design. We are at a crossroads: we can either allow these companies to continue their production of these vessels of destruction, or we can take a stand to protect our communities and save countless lives. Therefore, I strongly urge a favorable report for SB 334.

Signed,

Layla Greten
Founder Team ENOUGH Baltimore