

SB0334_RichardKaplowitz_FAV
02/05/2026

Richard Keith Kaplowitz
Frederick, MD 21703

TESTIMONY ON SB#/0334- POSITION: FAVORABLE

Criminal Law - Firearm Crimes - Machine Gun Convertible Pistols

TO: Chair Smith, Jr., Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Keith Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of SB#/0334, **Criminal Law - Firearm Crimes - Machine Gun Convertible Pistols**

The United States Attorneys Office of the Western District of Wisconsin has issued a press release entitled *U.S. Attorney's Office And ATF Highlight Emerging Threat Posed by Machinegun Conversion Devices*¹

About an inch-long, an MCD is an illegal after-market device that converts a semi-automatic firearm into a fully functioning machinegun. A firearm equipped with a machinegun conversion device is extremely dangerous, even for experienced firearms users, because it is difficult to control and is capable of firing 50 rounds in four seconds with a single pull of the trigger. For more information about the devices, please see the attached ATF materials and video link below.

“Machinegun conversion devices are extraordinarily dangerous,” said U.S. Attorney Timothy M. O’Shea. “These devices are often used in weapons that are not designed to function as machine guns, thus making the weapons incredibly difficult to aim. Discharging a weapon equipped with such a device in a public area endangers every child and adult within range.

Despite insistence that ANY firearm is protected under the second amendment no valid reason for these specific weapons of war as qualifying to be considered for that purpose is nonsensical. They let a purpose kill many people quickly and we need to stop them on our streets and in our state.

The bill will effect that goal by prohibiting, on or after January 1, 2027, a person from manufacturing, selling, offering for sale, purchasing, receiving, or transferring a certain machine gun convertible pistol, subject to certain exceptions.

This is a common-sense restriction on guns that are dangerous to users and the public.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on SB#/0334.

¹ <https://www.justice.gov/usao-wdwi/pr/us-attorneys-office-and-atf-highlight-emerging-threat-posed-machinegun-conversion>

³ <https://www.bradyunited.org/resources/research/guns-in-the-hands-of-domestic-abusers-2>