

Monday, February 9, 2026

HB 577 - Criminal Law - Firearm Crimes -

Machine Gun Convertible Pistols - Position: Favorable

Dear Delegate Williams and Members of the Committee,

I, Cynthia Sokolow of Ellicott City, MD am offering testimony in favor of HB 577.

Some handguns with so-called “Glock” switches can easily be converted into machine guns that fire 20 rounds per second. These switches are tiny, inexpensive, and can be purchased on-line or 3-D printed.

Groups attending events, schools, shopping centers and more could be targets of a mass shooter with an easily accessible, converted machine gun. The rise of these kinds of switches also puts our law enforcement at risk.

Consumers expect products they use to be safe. Manufacturers are responsible for the safety of their products. The firearm industry is no different. This bill provides ample time for gun makers to make the necessary adjustments in time for the January 1, 2027 effective date. The law would not apply to current handgun owners with this type of switch.

I respectfully urge you to pass HB 577 to keep us safe.

Thank you,

Cynthia Sokolow

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