

Collin Rolfes

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House Judiciary Committee

**SB0334 – Unfavorable**

Good afternoon Madam Chair, Madam Vice Chair, and esteemed members of the House Judiciary Committee. For the record, my name is Collin Michael Rolfes and I am testifying on this matter as United States Marine Corps veteran, and as someone who cherishes America's right to keep and bear arms.

Senate Bill 334 hides something that is unconstitutional on its face while being wrapped with good intentions and packaged with a little bow on top. The crime and violence in Baltimore City and other communities where gangs and other criminals are using switches is a problem that nobody can deny. But the disarming of Marylanders is not the way we should do it. The Supreme Court of the United States and other appellate courts have been very clear on this matter and if this passes and becomes law, we are ignoring decades of common law.

The decision from *District of Columbia v. Heller* clearly states that it is unconstitutional to ban firearms that are in common use. This bill will make it criminal to have any striker fired handguns, and even other older firearms, which are among the most popular of firearms not just in this state, but across the nation as a whole. According to many sources, including the ATF, the most common firearms in the country are the Sig P320 and P365, along with the Glock 17 and Glock 19. All of which, will be criminal to own.

The bill sets the criteria of what would be illegal as "easily convertible to a fully automatic machine gun". The term machine gun is not being used correctly. Machine guns have been illegal with very few exceptions during the Reagan administration and the use of a switch is included in that scope, with several federal and state penalties on the books. This standard raises a big question that I think all of you esteemed members of the committee should be asking yourselves, "easily convertible for whom?" Who actually has the tools and know-how to go about this modification besides the criminals that already intend to do that? My job in the Marines was to handle weapons and I do not have the first clue on how to mill the internals of a handgun to make it fully automatic. This obviously polysemous terminology is being used as a catch all to disarm law abiding residents while the criminals will continue to get their hands on these illegal firearms. This will not stop the criminals, it will only make millions of well-intentioned residents into criminals. I thank you

all for your time and attention to this matter and I respectfully request an unfavorable report.