



May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024

## “HB 335 – Ban on Multi-Burst Trigger Activators”

### Talking Points Presented by FOAC-ILLEA

1. We take issue with the definition of "Accelerated trigger activator." A part or combination of parts designed and intended to accelerate the rate of fire of a semiautomatic firearm to simulate the rate of fire of a machinegun.

a. There is no part or combination of parts that “simulates the rate of fire of a machinegun” except parts or combinations of parts that do manufacture a machinegun.

b. A machinegun is “Any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can readily be restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger.”<sup>i</sup> There is nothing that “simulates” that action that isn’t already regulated by the National Firearms Act under the strictest of gun control laws and violations covered by both federal law and 18 Pa. C.S. §908 Prohibited Offensive Weapons.

c. This definition of “Accelerated Trigger Activator” would not, by that definition, include bump stocks, forced reset triggers, or similar modifications as they do NOT discharge more than one shot by a single function of the trigger. They simply do not match or “simulate” the rate of fire of a machinegun.

2. Previously purchased components that are the apparent target of this bill are owned by tens of thousands of Pennsylvania residents who will become criminals in the eyes of the Commonwealth immediately, and along with the penalties of this statute, lose their right to purchase a firearm under federal law or attain a license to carry firearms under Pa. law.

3. A change of law of this stature will ensnare residents who are not aware that a device they once attained legally is now prohibited, and again will cost them other civil rights.

4. According to the U.S Government, there have been over 520,000 “bump stock” devices alone sold across the United States, and they are not registered by any means, so you cannot identify the owners to notify of the change.

5. These devices cost enthusiasts hundreds of dollars they will have lost without reimbursement from government’s moving of the goalposts.

6. Associated with only one criminal event on record in the history of over half a million such devices sold. Including the Las Vegas shooting as mentioned in the memo on this bill, it should be noted that this is the only time these devices are on record associated with any criminal activity. AND investigators stated it is unknown if they were even used in the act.

7. New Jersey outlawed bump stocks; none were turned in.<sup>ii</sup>

8. Massachusetts outlawed them and three were turned in.<sup>iii</sup>

9. This legislation is a symbol of a symbol... it’s feel-good legislation that will do nothing to save lives or prevent crime. You would be just as effective outlawing unicorns.

### *Support the Bill of Rights and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment*

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10. Effective enforcement will require great risk to law enforcement and otherwise law-abiding citizens who may not be aware they are violating the new law.
11. “bump fire” does not require any device to succeed. It can be done manually without accessories so banning the accessories will not prevent criminals from doing it if they choose to.
12. These devices are near impossible to control and other than extremely tight crowds are more likely to reduce lethality if used criminally due to an inability to control accuracy.
13. Any restriction of firearms is a clear violation of the Constitutions of both this Commonwealth and this nation. Our founding fathers argued repeatedly that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment’s purpose is to provide the means for an oppressed populace to overthrow a tyrannical government. By Constitutional amendment restricting access to these accessories because they make a firearm appear to match military hardware remains un-Constitutional.

**“The right of the citizens to bear arms in defense of themselves and the State shall not be questioned.”**

If you should have any further questions regarding these FOAC-ILLEA points, please feel free to e-mail or call.

Respectfully,



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#### Endnotes

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<sup>i</sup> <https://www.atf.gov/file/58141/download>

<sup>ii</sup> <https://stateline.org/2018/05/18/so-states-ban-bump-stocks-now-how-do-they-enforce-the-law/>

<sup>iii</sup> <https://stateline.org/2018/05/18/so-states-ban-bump-stocks-now-how-do-they-enforce-the-law/>