

Galen Ricci
Scarborough
LD 1340

Dear esteemed members of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee,

My name is Galen Ricci and I'm writing to express my wholehearted support for LD 1340 - An Act to Prohibit the Sale or Possession of Rapid-fire Modification Devices. This crucial legislation seeks to address a pressing issue in our society by banning the sale and possession of devices such as bump stocks, which have been directly associated with the most devastating mass shooting in modern American history. It is essential that we prioritize the safety and well-being of our communities, and this bill is a vital step towards achieving that goal.

In October 2017, the nation watched in horror as a lone gunman unleashed unspeakable violence upon innocent concertgoers in Las Vegas. This devastating event, the largest and deadliest mass shooting in modern American history, resulted in the loss of numerous precious lives and left countless others injured physically and emotionally. It is imperative that we take decisive action to prevent such horrors from recurring.

Rapid-fire modification devices, like bump stocks, exist solely to increase the rate of fire of a firearm, allowing it to discharge rounds at an accelerated pace. These accessories serve no legitimate purpose for self-defense or hunting needs. They are not designed to enhance accuracy or precision. Instead, their sole function is to maximize casualties by enabling a shooter to fire more rounds in a shorter span of time.

It is crucial to acknowledge that the use of bump stocks or similar rapid-fire modification devices has no place in legitimate self-defense scenarios or responsible hunting practices. The excessive and indiscriminate rate of fire they enable goes far beyond any reasonable need for protection or ethical hunting practices. We must ensure that the tools available to individuals are in line with the intended purpose of self-defense or sporting activities.

By passing LD 1340, we can take a proactive stance in preserving public safety. The primary goal of this legislation is to limit the potential for mass casualties by restricting the availability and use of these dangerous accessories. We have a responsibility to protect our communities from unnecessary harm and to take concrete steps to prevent individuals from accessing tools designed solely to inflict widespread destruction.

It is important to emphasize that supporting this bill does not infringe upon the rights of responsible gun owners. LD 1340 targets specifically those devices that serve no purpose other than maximizing casualties. By supporting this legislation, we reaffirm our commitment to ensuring that the rights of law-abiding citizens are upheld, while simultaneously addressing a dangerous loophole that puts innocent lives at risk.

In conclusion, LD 1340 - An Act to Prohibit the Sale or Possession of Rapid-fire Modification Devices, represents a crucial step towards protecting our communities and preventing senseless acts of violence. We must not allow weapons and accessories designed solely for mass destruction to remain readily available. By passing this bill, we can take a meaningful stand against the indiscriminate loss of life and ensure the safety of our fellow citizens. I urge you to support this important legislation and make a lasting impact on the well-being of our society.

Thank you for your time and consideration.