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Oregon House Passes Crucial Gun Bill to Improve Community Safety

SALEM, Ore. - This week, Oregon House Democrats delivered on commitments to prevent gun tragedies with the passage of [SB 243](#). SB 243 prohibits the sale and possession of rapid-fire activators in Oregon and authorizing local governments to determine if firearms are permitted inside official meeting locations.

Rapid-fire activators effectively turn semi-automatic firearms into fully automatic weapons, which have been banned in Oregon and across the United States for decades. These accessories bypass the protections against fully automated weapons, leading to the kinds of devastation seen in the massacres at Uvalde, Texas and Las Vegas, Nevada.

“At the heart of the bill is this: you cannot have a rapid-fire device in this state. Bump stocks, for example, allow a semi-automatic rifle to be essentially turned into a machine gun,” said **Representative Jason Kropf (D – Bend)**. “Gun violence harms our communities daily, and that is not a status quo we accept.”

So far this year, the [Multnomah County District Attorney’s office reports](#) seeing the use of rapid-fire activators used in crimes multiple times a month. These devices are harming Oregonians now, and that translates to consequences for Portland’s economic health and vitality, and for civic and community engagement.

“Oregonians deserve to feel safe in our communities, on our streets, and in our homes,” says **Representative Dacia Grayber (D - SW Portland & E Beaverton)**. “Firearm modifications with the capacity to unleash devastating violence have no place in our daily life. Today we took a step to get these types of weapons out of our community and create that safer Oregon.”

The bill also ensures that, in the event of a court ruling upholding the constitutionality of Ballot Measure 114, criminal penalties will not be implemented until there is a chance for legislative review to occur. Legislators are committed to protecting responsible gun owners, while holding bad actors appropriately accountable.

“When Oregonians passed Measure 114, they sent a clear message that we need to regulate dangerous firearms,” said **Representative Finger McDonald (D – Corvallis)**. “Rapid-fire activators turn ordinary weapons into weapons of war, and they should not be in our homes or on our streets.”

“We can’t wait for another tragedy before we act to make Oregonians safer,” said co-chief sponsor **Senator Anthony Broadman (D – Bend)**, who carried the measure on the Senate floor. “Our local communities deserve more options for protecting everyone.”

With passage of the bill, SB 243 heads back to the Senate for concurrence.

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