



The League of Women Voters of Oregon, established in 1920, is a grassroots nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. We envision informed Oregonians participating in a fully accessible, responsive, and transparent government to achieve the common good. LWVOR Legislative Action is based on advocacy positions formed through studies and member consensus. The League never supports or opposes any candidate or political party.

April 7, 2025

To: [Senator Floyd Prozanski](#), Chair, [Senate Committee on Judiciary](#)

Re: [SB 696](#) – Relating to rapid fire activators – **Support**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon strongly supports SB 696 based on our position that firearm regulations should include limitations on access to semi-automatic/automatic weapons, enforcement of strict penalties for the improper possession of and crimes committed with handguns and assault weapons, and allocation of resources to better regulate and monitor gun dealers. Because rapid fire devices, such as bump stocks and Glock switches, allow semi-automatic firearms to function like automatic weapons, we believe these devices pose a significant safety threat to our communities

A statewide ban on rapid fire activators has become more urgent since the 2024 US Supreme Court ruling in *Garland v Cargill* that the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives exceeded its statutory authority in 2018 when it issued a rule classifying a bump stock as a “machine gun.” However, the federal ruling legalizing bump stocks does not apply to states that have passed laws banning such rapid-fire devices. Currently, 16 states have done so, including Washington and California, and it is time for Oregon to do the same. Without such a law, there are no impediments to the proliferation of these devices in our state.

It is our view, as well as the view of a sizable majority of people in this country, that there is no legitimate reason for civilians to transport, manufacture, or transfer devices that enable semi-automatic rifles to fire at rates as high as 400 to 800 rounds per minute. In 2017, a gunman in Las Vegas used firearms equipped with bump stocks to fire more than 1,000 bullets, kill 60 people, and wound hundreds of others. We need to do whatever we can to prevent such a tragedy in Oregon.

We urge your support for SB 696 and thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Klein". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Barbara Klein
Acting President LWVOR

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marge Easley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marge Easley
LWVOR Action Committee Member