

RES 18-012 *As Amended

Wilmington, Delaware
February 15, 2018

#4484

Sponsor:

Council
President
Shabazz

WHEREAS, on the fifth anniversary of the Sandy Hook Elementary School mass shooting, a group of Delaware state legislators introduced a bill that would prohibit “bump stocks” and similar devices designed to accelerate the rate of fire of a semiautomatic rifle; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 300 would make the possession, buying and selling of a device that accelerates the rate of fire of a semiautomatic weapon a class E felony and punishable by up to five years in prison; and

WHEREAS, news reports and analyses indicate that mass shootings are becoming more prevalent, and increasingly deadly; and

WHEREAS, on October 1, 2017, a gunman in Las Vegas utilized a “bump stock” device that enabled him to fire some 1,100 rounds in 15 minutes, senselessly killing 58 innocent concert-goers and harming another 550, making it the deadliest mass shooting in U.S. history; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress has yet to pass legislation addressing the issue of devices that accelerate the rate of fire of a semiautomatic rifle, though Massachusetts has passed legislation prohibiting “bump stocks” and there are several states, including New Jersey, that are considering implementing a ban on “bump stock” devices as well.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, that the Wilmington City Council supports House Bill 300, and encourages the Delaware General Assembly to adopt this legislation in order to effectively prohibit devices that have the capacity to accelerate the rate of fire of semiautomatic weapons.

***Note Amendment:** First Whereas clause, 2nd line, after the word “bill” insert: *at the request of Wilmington City Council*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Wilmington City Council encourages the United States Congress to pass similar legislation that would prohibit the use and possession of “bump stock” devices.

Passed by City Council,
February 15, 2018

Attest: Maribel Seijo
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: This Resolution supports House Bill 300 that was introduced by the Delaware General Assembly on October 1, 2017. The adoption of House Bill 300 would make selling, using and possessing a device that increases the rate of fire of a semiautomatic rifle illegal, and a class E felony. This Resolution further encourages the United States Congress to pass legislation that would prohibit these devices at the federal level.