



MURIEL BOWSER MAYOR

February 28, 2018

The Honorable Phil Mendelson Chairman Council of the District of Columbia 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 504 Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Chairman Mendelson:

Enclosed for consideration and approval by the Council of the District of Columbia is a bill entitled the "Bump Stock Prohibition Amendment Act of 2018."

The legislation would prohibit the possession of bump stocks in the District of Columbia. A bump stock is a device that, when attached to a semiautomatic weapon, serves a single purpose: to greatly increase the rate of fire from that weapon and, in effect, render it as lethal as an automatic weapon. It does this by eliminating the need for the shooter to pull the trigger to fire each individual round. Instead, the device allows a shooter to simply hold the trigger and the weapon will fire in rapid succession at a rate similar to an automatic firearm.

During October's mass shooting in Las Vegas, the shooter had at least a dozen bump stock devices for his weapons, allowing him to fire more than 1,100 rounds in the span of a few minutes. This resulted in the largest mass murder in American history, with 58 people dead and more than 800 wounded. A few days later, Senator Dianne Feinstein introduced a bill to prohibit bump stocks. Unfortunately, as with any sensible gun control legislation, the Congress has failed to act.

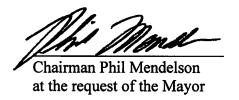
We cannot wait for the President or the Congress to act. We must do all we can to protect our residents and visitors. With the passage of this bill, the District of Columbia will join other states that have already banned bump stocks, including Massachusetts and California. Through this legislation, we reaffirm our commitment to sensible gun control measures that will save lives and help us build a safer, stronger DC.

If you have any questions on this matter, please contact Kevin Donahue Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice at 202) 286-5028.

Sincerely,

Muriel Bowser

Enclosures



3 A BILL 4 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 5 To prohibit a person from possessing a bump stock in the District of Columbia; and to provide an 6 exception for members of designated military and law enforcement agencies. 7 8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA. That this 9 act may be cited as the "Bump Stock Prohibition Amendment Act of 2018." 10 Sec. 2. An Act To control the possession, sale, transfer, and use of pistols and other 11 dangerous weapons in the District of Columbia, to provide penalties, to prescribe rules of 12 evidence, and for other purposes, approved July 8, 1932 (47 Stat. 650; D.C. Official Code § 22-13 4501 et seq.), is amended as follows: 14 (a) Section 1 (D.C. Official Code § 22-4501) is amended as follows: 15 (1) Paragraph (1) is redesignated as paragraph (1A). 16 (2) A new paragraph (1) is added to read as follows: 17 "(1) "Bump stock" means: 18 "(A) Any manual, power-driven, or electronic device that is 19 designed or functions to increase the rate of fire of a semiautomatic firearm when the device is 20 attached to the firearm: 21 "(B) Any part of a semiautomatic firearm, or combination of parts,

that is designed or functions to increase the rate of fire of a semiautomatic firearm by eliminating

1 2

22

| I  | the need for the operator of the firearm to make a separate movement for each individual           |
|----|--|
| 2  | function of the trigger; or  |
| 3  | "(C) Any other device, part, or combination of parts, that is                                      |
| 4  | designed or functions to substantially increase the rate of fire of a semiautomatic firearm above  |
| 5  | the standard rate of fire for semiautomatic firearms that are not equipped with that device, part, |
| 6  | or combination of parts.".   |
| 7  | (b) Section 14 (D.C. Official Code § 22-4514) is amended by:                                       |
| 8  | (1) Inserting the phrase "bump stock," before the phrase "or any instrument"; and                  |
| 9  | (2) Inserting the phrase "bump stocks," before the phrase "and blackjacks".                        |
| 10 | Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.   |
| 11 | The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal               |
| 12 | impact statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975,         |
| 13 | approved October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-301.47a).                        |
| 14 | Sec. 4. Effective date.  |
| 15 | This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the         |
| 16 | Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 60-day period of Congressional review as     |
| 17 | provided in section 602(c)(2) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December         |
| 18 | 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(2)), and publication in the District of   |
| 19 | Columbia Register.   |

## GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL



ATTORNEY GENERAL KARL A. RACINE

**Legal Counsel Division** 

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

Alana Intrieri

**Executive Director** 

Office of Policy and Legislative Support

FROM:

Janet M. Robins

Deputy Attorney General Legal Counsel Division

DATE:

February 27, 2018

SUBJECT:

Legal Certification of Draft legislation, the "Bump Stock Prohibition

Amendment Act of 2018"

(AE-18-104)

This is to Certify that this Office has reviewed the above-referenced draft legislation and found it to be legally sufficient. If you have any questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to call me at 724-5524.

Janet M. Robins