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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1872 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY DEAN, D. COSTA, SIMS, McCARTER, FRANKEL, RABB,  
DONATUCCI, PASHINSKI, WARREN, VAZQUEZ, COMMITTA, HILL-EVANS,  
SOLOMON, J. HARRIS, SAMUELSON, DALEY, SCHWEYER, KULIK, ROZZI,  
DRISCOLL, DAVIS, DAVIDSON, W. KELLER, O'BRIEN, M. QUINN,  
MURT, WATSON, STURLA, ROEBUCK, KRUEGER-BRANEKY, BRADFORD AND  
BRIGGS, OCTOBER 23, 2017

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, OCTOBER 23, 2017

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, in inchoate crimes, further providing  
3 for prohibited offensive weapons.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Section 908(c) of Title 18 of the Pennsylvania  
7 Consolidated Statutes is amended and subsection (b) is amended  
8 by adding a paragraph to read:

9 § 908. Prohibited offensive weapons.

10 \* \* \*

11 (b) Exceptions.--

12 \* \* \*

13 (4) This section shall not apply to possession of an  
14 accelerated trigger activator purchased or otherwise obtained  
15 by the defendant prior to the effective date of this  
16 paragraph.

1 (c) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following  
2 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this  
3 subsection:

4 "Accelerated trigger activator." A part or combination of  
5 parts designed and intended to accelerate the rate of fire of a  
6 semi-automatic firearm to simulate the rate of fire of a  
7 machinegun.

8 "Firearm." Any weapon which is designed to or may readily be  
9 converted to expel any projectile by the action of an explosive  
10 or the frame or receiver of any such weapon.

11 "Machinegun." As defined in section 201 of the Internal  
12 Revenue Code of 1986 (Public Law 99-514, 26 U.S.C. § 5845).

13 "Offensive weapons." Any bomb, grenade, [machine gun,]  
14 machinegun, accelerated trigger activator, sawed-off shotgun  
15 with a barrel less than 18 inches, firearm specially made or  
16 specially adapted for concealment or silent discharge, any  
17 blackjack, sandbag, metal knuckles, dagger, knife, razor or  
18 cutting instrument, the blade of which is exposed in an  
19 automatic way by switch, push-button, spring mechanism, or  
20 otherwise, any stun gun, stun baton, taser or other electronic  
21 or electric weapon or other implement for the infliction of  
22 serious bodily injury which serves no common lawful purpose.

23 \* \* \*

24 Section 2. Within 10 days of the effective date of this  
25 section, the Attorney General shall provide notice describing in  
26 detail the contents of this act to the Legislative Reference  
27 Bureau, which shall publish the notice in the Pennsylvania  
28 Bulletin.

29 Section 3. This act shall take effect as follows:

30 (1) Section 2 of this act shall take effect immediately.

1           (2) The remainder of this act shall take effect 30 days  
2 after publication in the Pennsylvania Bulletin of the notice  
3 under section 2.