

**Testimony in Support of HB 277 Banning Ghost Guns in Delaware  
in the House Administration Committee  
January 22, 2020**



My name is Jack Guerin and I'm presenting testimony on behalf of the League of Women Voters. We support HB 277 banning Ghost Guns in Delaware.

The term "ghost gun" is used by media, police, and sometimes the firearms industry to describe homemade weapons devoid of serial numbers or other identifying markings that enable them to be tracked to their maker, seller, or original owner.

This month a Canadian living in Newark Delaware along with two Maryland associates were arrested by FBI agents who said the men were members of a "violent" white supremacy group heading to Richmond Virginia for a pro-gun rally. The man living in Newark had successfully made an assault rifle at his apartment. He boasted that he "accidentally made a machine gun". They had purchased 1,650 rounds of ammunition and tested their homemade assault rifle at a gun range in Maryland.

There is now a thriving market for unfinished gun kits and components that are not serialized and do not require a background check to acquire. These unfinished weapons are typically 80 percent complete and require the purchaser to use basic, widely accessible tools to complete the final 20 percent of work. Sellers often provide links to milling instructions, instructional videos, and detailed diagrams of the different parts.

Over the last several years, law enforcement agencies have recovered ghost guns at an increasing rate. According to a recent report, the ATF estimates that 30 percent of guns recovered in California in connection with crimes have no serial number and are therefore untraceable. State and local law enforcement have reported recovering ghost guns from felons, criminal gangs, drug dealers, and minors. We urge you to vote Yes on HB 277 banning Ghost Guns in Delaware.