



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DELAWARE
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**Testimony in Support of HB 125 Banning Ghost Guns in Delaware
in the House Administration Committee
March 16, 2021**



My name is Sandy Spence and I'm currently President of the League of Women Voters of Delaware. We support HB 125 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 would enable them to be tracked to their maker, seller, or original owner.

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.

In January 2020, 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. Apparently, they had planned to use it at a rally in Richmond, VA, the week after they were arrested.

We urge you to release HB 125 banning Ghost Guns in Delaware and support its enactment.