



2019 AG REQUEST LEGISLATION

3D-PRINTED GUNS AND OTHER UNTRACEABLE “GHOST GUNS”

What needs to change?

Washington state has adopted laws to prevent dangerous individuals from owning firearms, but convicted felons and other individuals prohibited from possessing a firearm can get around these laws by mail-ordering printable plastic “ghost guns” that are untraceable and undetectable.

Why is this change necessary?

Led by the Washington state Attorney General’s Office, a bipartisan group of 20 state attorneys general went to federal court and succeeded in obtaining an order from U.S. District Judge Robert Lasnik to temporarily block the federal government from allowing the distribution of 3D-printed guns over the internet. The states successfully argued the federal government’s action would undermine their laws that protect the public by keeping guns out of the hands of dangerous individuals.

Unfortunately, Defense Distributed, an entity founded by a self-proclaimed “crypto-anarchist,” responded by mailing printable “ghost gun” files to individuals who request them. There is no evidence Defense Distributed is running background checks before mailing printable guns.

KEY
STAT

THOUSANDS

According to its “crypto-anarchist” founder, Defense Distributed has sold and mailed thousands of digital blueprints for undetectable and untraceable 3D-printed guns since Judge Lasnik’s order.

Around the US:

After the bipartisan coalition of 20 states won a temporary restraining order against the federal government, President Trump tweeted: “I am looking into 3-D plastic Guns being sold to the public. Already spoke to the NRA, doesn’t seem to make much sense!” The White House further stated that “the President is glad this effort was delayed.”

What’s the solution? SB-5061 / HB-1739

This legislation:

- Prohibits ownership or transfer of any firearm that cannot be reliably detected by a metal detector, such as a plastic 3D-printed gun, without affecting legal, detectable firearms;
- Prohibits anyone from facilitating the manufacture or assembly of a firearm by a Washingtonian who is ineligible to own a firearm under state law;
- Increases the criminal penalty for using an undetectable firearm in a felony.

Key Support:

- Alliance for Gun Responsibility
- Everytown for Gun Safety
- Faith Action Network
- Foundation for Healthy Generations
- Governor’s Office
- Grandmothers Against Gun Violence
- King County
- Providence St. Joseph Health
- Seattle Police Chief
- Snohomish County Prosecutor
- Washington Association for Substance Abuse and Violence Prevention
- Washington State Medical Association

Prime Sponsors:

Sen. Dhirra: D
Rep. Valdez: D

Office Contacts:

Yasmin Trudeau
Legislative Affairs Director
YasminC@atg.wa.gov

Brittany Gregory
Deputy Legislative Director
BrittanyG@atg.wa.gov

1: The Washington Times, “Cody Wilson has sold thousands of 3D gun blueprints: ‘The news was well-received’”, August 29, 2018. <https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2018/aug/29/cody-wilson-has-sold-thousands-of-3d-gun-blueprint/>