



2019 AG REQUEST LEGISLATION

LIMITS ON HIGH-CAPACITY MAGAZINES

What needs to change?

Washington state does not place any limits on the capacity of magazines an individual can purchase. Individuals in Washington state can lawfully purchase 30-round, 60-round, and even *100-round magazines*.

Why is this change necessary?

In the past three years, two mass shootings involving high-capacity magazines have occurred in Washington state. These shootings resulted in the deaths of eight individuals (Mukilteo, 2016; Burlington, 2016). Most mass shootings that shock the national conscience involve high-capacity magazines, including:

Location	Year	Magazine Capacity	Deaths	Injuries
Newtown, CT	2012	30 rounds	26	2
Aurora, CO	2012	100 rounds	12	70
Orlando, FL	2016	30 rounds	49	58
Las Vegas, NV	2017	100 rounds	58	500+
Sutherland, TX	2017	30 rounds	26	20

In Parkland, Florida, the mass shooting ended only when Nikolas Cruz's assault weapon jammed when he attempted to reload.¹

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On average 2.2 shots are fired during self-defense shootings, according to the NRA's reports. The same reports show it is extremely rare for more than 10 shots to be fired during self-defense.²

Around the US:

Legislatures in Maryland, Connecticut, California, New York, Massachusetts and New Jersey have limited magazine capacity to 10-rounds. **Federal appellate courts have upheld these limits as constitutional.**³

What is the solution? HB-1068

The legislation sets a reasonable limit to the capacity of magazines that can be sold in Washington state - 10 rounds. The bill exempts law enforcement, military and recreational shooting ranges. It requires safe and secure storage for magazines grandfathered by possession on the effective date of the legislation.

Key Support:

- Alliance for Gun Responsibility
- City of Seattle
- 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
- Seattle Police Department
- Snohomish County Prosecutor
- Washington Association for Substance Abuse and Violence Prevention
- Washington State Medical Association

Prime Sponsors:

Sen. Kuderer: D
Rep. Valdez: D

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1: Miami Herald, "Florida school shooter's AR-15 may have jammed, saving lives, report says," <https://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/community/broward/article202486304.html>

2: "The Armed Citizen - A Five Year Analysis," 1997-2001, <https://tacticalprofessor.files.wordpress.com/2014/12/tac-5-year-w-tables.pdf>

3: High capacity magazines Upheld by 9th Circuit, 2002 (Silveira v. Lockyer, 312 F.3d 1052 (9th Cir. 2002); Upheld by 2nd Cir. (NY State Rifle & Pistol Assn. et al. v. Cuomo et al., No. 14-319), cert. denied (Shew v. Malloy, No. 15-1030, June 20, 2016); Upheld by 7th Cir. (Friedman v. Highland Park, No. 14-3091, 2015), cert. denied (No. 15-133, Dec. 2015); Upheld by the 4th Cir. (Stephen v. Kolbe, No. 14-1945), cert. denied.