

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMPILATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Submitted to the Committee on Community Safety, Select
For HB 3266

Compiled on: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 7:35 PM

Note: Comments received by the committee reflect only the view of the individual(s) submitting the comment, who retain sole responsibility for the content of the comment. Neither the committee nor the Texas House of Representatives takes a position on the views expressed in any comment. The committee compiles the comments received for informational purposes only and does not exercise any editorial control over comments.

Hearing Date: April 4, 2023 2:00 PM - or upon final adjourn./recess or bill referral if permission granted

Jake Wilson
Self - CPA
Fort Worth, TX

I support HB 3266 and I thank Representative Frazier for introducing it. In general, I support the right of responsible adults to own weapons necessary for self-defense. But I believe there are several things that can be done legislatively to reduce gun violence, and which we are not doing currently, that fit within the way the Supreme Court interpreted the 2nd amendment in the DC vs. Heller and New York State Rifle vs. Bruen decisions. I'm not a lawyer. But in my humble opinion, passing HB 3266 is one of those things we can do, which I believe is compatible with these two important Supreme Court decisions on gun ownership rights.

Another bill which I think is compatible with DC vs Heller and New York State Rifle vs Bruen is Representative Tracy King's HB2744, which raises the age to purchase a semiautomatic rifle to 21 years old.

I'm a Republican who voted for Governor Greg Abbott and Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick in October of 2022. But I support Tracy King's HB2744 in the aftermath of the Uvalde tragedy. A recent poll conducted by UT Tyler on February 20-28 indicates that 73% of Republican voters support raising the age for buying a semiautomatic rifle to 21 years old. It's possible that what happened in Uvalde has shifted public opinion on raising the age for semiautomatic rifles more than some might realize.

I hope the Select Committee on Public Safety will urgently hold a hearing for HB2744 as soon as possible, and report it favorably.

Thank You Very Much.

Harold Waters, Mr.
MYSELF
Houston, TX

Please oppose this bill.

Richard Wood
Self - paramedic
Conroe, TX

I support this bill.

Chris Donofrio
Self / Gun safety advocate
The Woodlands, TX

I strongly support HB 3266.
I urge you to pass it out of committee.

This bill adds a common-sense prohibition, shown in lines 20-22, p1. The Penal Code already prohibits machine guns. The inserted text extends the logic regarding machine guns to handguns.

Respectfully,
Chris J. Donofrio

Cindy Fountain, Ms
TXUUJM Texas Unitarian Universalist Justice Ministry
Cleburne, TX

Support HB 3266 - I support this bill. It is a common sense gun safety measure. Please vote for this bill. We urgently need some gun safety measures put into place. Thank you.

Paul Savage
Self/ Life and Organizational Coach, 407 Oak Haven St.
Baytown, TX

Please vote against this Bill.

David Nelson
Self, Instructor
Weatherford, TX

Please oppose HB 3266 by Frazier, it is too vague and leaves too much to interpretation. It could place an undue burden on law abiding citizens.

Janna Canard
Texas UU Justice Ministry
Fort Worth, TX

I support HB 3266 relating to the prosecution of the criminal offense of the possession, manufacture, transport, repair, or sale of certain devices intended to modify handguns. I fervently believe that handguns should NOT be modified to automatically shoot more than one shot and that any involvement with such modifications should be a criminal offense. I hope you will all also support this common sense gun law.

David Troiano
Self-retired
Highland Village, TX

I support this bill. We need to make it harder for people to modify their guns to become automatics. This is a simple way to reduce dangerous guns available.

Christina Sellers, Mrs.
Self
Westworth Village, TX

Please support this common sense gun regulation to move us in the direction of reducing deaths by gun violence.

Carolyn Lux
Self/Retired RN
Fredericksburg, TX

I am against the passage of this bill.

Donna Reeves
Self Representing inclusive humanity, Single Parents, Queer, Sober Texan
Pflugerville, TX

My name is Donna Lea Reeves, I live in Pflugerville and the Austin area has been my chosen city for 16 years, Texan 40 years. Representing inclusive equal humanity, single Parents and Queer Sober Recovery Community. I am contacting all representatives and legislative committee members that represent me and our community to:

Support HB 3266 by Frazier Relating to the prosecution of the criminal offense of the possession, manufacture, transport, repair, or sale of certain devices intended to modify handguns. I strongly support this Bill. We must try out all the different ways and go to any lengths to break the repeating cycles of dangerous actions with the use of firearms. The goal is to create a law that will create an offense for making a handgun capable of automatically shooting more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. Thank you all for your valuable time, attention to these imperative changes, for serving as our trusted servants and for relaying our powerful voices.

Jacob Wilson
Self-CPA
Fort Worth, TX

I commented once before that I believe HB 3266 is compatible with the DC vs. Heller and New York Rifle vs. Bruen Supreme Court Cases regarding the 2nd amendment. I write to respectfully respond to a claim made that this bill may not be compatible with New York Rifle vs. Bruen.

Justice Scalia, writing for the majority in DC vs. Heller, said that, "We also recognize another important limitation on the right to keep and carry arms. Miller said, as we have explained, that the sorts of weapons protected were those "in common use at the time." 307 U. S., at 179. We think that limitation is fairly supported by the historical tradition of prohibiting the carrying of "dangerous and unusual weapons."

Furthermore, in his concurring opinion in the New York Rifle vs. Bruen case, Justice Alito wrote,

"Although Heller concerned the possession of a handgun in the home, the key point that we decided was that "the people," not just members of the "militia," have the right to use a firearm to defend themselves. And because many people face a serious risk of lethal violence when they venture outside their homes, the Second Amendment was understood at the time of adoption to apply under those circumstances. The Court's exhaustive historical survey establishes that point very clearly, and today's decision therefore holds that a State may not enforce a law, like New York's Sullivan Law, that effectively prevents its law-abiding residents from carrying a gun for this purpose.

That is all we decide. Our holding decides nothing about who may lawfully possess a firearm or the requirements that must be met to buy a gun. Nor does it decide anything about the kinds of weapons that people may possess. Nor have we disturbed anything that we said in Heller or McDonald v. Chicago, 561 U. S. 742 (2010), about restrictions that may be imposed on the possession or carrying of guns."

DC vs. Heller allowed for the prohibition of carrying "dangerous and unusual weapons". According to Justice Alito, the New York Rifle vs. Bruen case did not disturb anything the Court said in Heller regarding restrictions that may be imposed on the possession or carrying of guns. I think it is reasonable to conclude that the devices that modify handguns which HB 3266 addresses could be considered "dangerous and unusual weapons". Therefore, although I am not a lawyer and just a concerned citizen, in my humble opinion HB 3266 is compatible with New York Rifle vs. Bruen.