

Submitter: Dr Steven and Jean Carlton
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure: HB2005

Ghost guns, easy to obtain and close to impossible to trace are an especially profound threat to the safety of our communities. Consider just one example: the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) reported that a single ghost gun was “linked to 24 murders, eight attempted murders, 20 robberies and 60 assaults with a deadly weapon by the end of last November.” Ghost guns have been demonstrated to be a favorite tool of violent criminals, white supremacists and people legally prohibited from having guns.

The rate of ghost gun use in U.S. crimes has risen more than 1,000% since 2017, the Department of Justice said in a federal report released February 1, 2023. The findings are based on tracing data collected by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), and present the most comprehensive data in two decades on crime and guns in the U.S. And could this be other than the tip of the iceberg since these weapons are untraceable?

It is astounding that we should do anything other than punish manufacturing, importing, offering for sale or transferring undetectable firearms. We strongly support passing this bill in the effort to make our communities safer from gun violence.