

# US lawmaker urges ban on large gun clips

– Mon Jan 10, 6:57 pm ET

WASHINGTON (AFP) – A US Senator announced Monday he would soon present legislation to ban high-capacity [ammunition clips](#) after a gunman used one in an attempted assassination of a US lawmaker over the weekend.

"The only reason to have 33 bullets loaded in a handgun is to kill a lot of people very quickly. These high-capacity clips simply should not be on the market," Democratic Senator Frank Lautenberg said in a statement.

Lautenberg said high-capacity ammunition "clips" holding more than 10 rounds at a time were banned under the [Federal Assault Weapons Ban](#) that the US Congress enacted in 1994 but did not renew in 2004.

The lawmaker said his proposal, to be unveiled when the US Senate returns to work late this month, would ban ammunition clips that can hold, or can be easily converted to hold, more than 10 rounds.

"Before 2004, these ammunition clips were banned, and they must be banned again. When the Senate returns to Washington, I will introduce legislation to prohibit this type of high-capacity clip," he said.

Authorities said alleged gunman Jared Loughner, 22, fired 31 shots from his 9mm Glock semi-automatic pistol and was reloading when bystanders including a 74-year-old retired colonel whose head had just been grazed by a bullet, tackled him.

Democratic Representative Gabrielle Giffords, 40, was shot through the head at point-blank range but survived, while six people, including a nine-year-old girl and a federal judge, were killed.