



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

***Raised Bill No. 7218***

LCO No. 4663



Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY

Introduced by:  
(JUD)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE SAFE STORAGE OF FIREARMS IN THE HOME.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 29-37i of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

3 No person shall store or keep any [loaded] firearm, as defined in  
4 section 53a-3, on any premises under such person's control if such  
5 person knows or reasonably should know that (1) a minor is likely to  
6 gain access to the firearm without the permission of the parent or  
7 guardian of the minor, (2) a resident of the premises is ineligible to  
8 possess a firearm under state or federal law, or (3) a resident of the  
9 premises poses a risk of imminent personal injury to himself or herself  
10 or to other individuals, unless such person (A) keeps the firearm in a  
11 securely locked box or other container or in a [location] manner which  
12 a reasonable person would believe to be secure, or (B) carries the  
13 firearm on his or her person or within such close proximity thereto that  
14 such person can readily retrieve and use the firearm as if such person  
15 carried the firearm on his or her person. For the purposes of this

16 section, "minor" means any person under the age of [sixteen] eighteen  
17 years.

18 Sec. 2. Section 52-571g of the general statutes is repealed and the  
19 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

20 Any person whose act or omission constitutes a violation of section  
21 29-37i, as amended by this act, shall be strictly liable for damages when  
22 a minor or, a resident of the premises who is ineligible to possess a  
23 firearm under state or federal law or who poses a risk of imminent  
24 personal injury to himself or herself or to other individuals, obtains a  
25 firearm, as defined in section 53a-3, and causes the injury or death of  
26 such minor, resident or any other person. For the purposes of this  
27 section, "minor" means any person under the age of [sixteen] eighteen  
28 years.

29 Sec. 3. Section 53a-217a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
30 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

31 (a) A person is guilty of criminally negligent storage of a firearm  
32 when such person violates the provisions of section 29-37i, as amended  
33 by this act, and a minor or, a resident of the premises who is ineligible  
34 to possess a firearm under state or federal law or who poses a risk of  
35 imminent personal injury to himself or herself or to other individuals,  
36 obtains the firearm and causes the injury or death of such minor,  
37 resident or any other person. For the purposes of this section, "minor"  
38 means any person under the age of [sixteen] eighteen years.

39 (b) The provisions of this section shall not apply if the minor obtains  
40 the firearm as a result of an unlawful entry to any premises by any  
41 person.

42 (c) Criminally negligent storage of a firearm is a class D felony.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	October 1, 2019	29-37i
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Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	52-571g
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	53a-217a

***Statement of Purpose:***

To require the safe storage of all firearms, whether loaded or unloaded, in a home with a minor under eighteen years of age.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*