

1 AN ACT relating to firearms.

2 WHEREAS, guns which are not stored safely or securely pose a clear safety risk to  
3 children in the form of unintentional gun deaths, youth suicides, and school shootings;  
4 and

5 WHEREAS, studies show that between 70% and 90% of guns used in youth  
6 suicides, unintentional shootings among children, and school shootings perpetrated by  
7 shooters under the age of 18 are acquired from the home or the homes of relatives or  
8 friends; and

9 WHEREAS, it is imperative to impose liability on adults for failing to take simple  
10 yet important measures to prevent unsupervised access to guns by young hands;

11 NOW, THEREFORE,

12 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

13 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 527 IS CREATED TO  
14 READ AS FOLLOWS:

15 *(1) A person is guilty of unlawful storage of a firearm when:*

16 *(a) He or she recklessly stores or leaves a firearm in a manner which allows a*  
17 *minor to have unsupervised access to a firearm that is not secured by:*

18 *1. A securely locked container;*

19 *2. A device or mechanism, other than the firearm safety, designed to*  
20 *render the firearm temporarily inoperable; or*

21 *3. Carrying the firearm on his or her body; and*

22 *(b) A minor, without permission of the minor's parent or guardian, accesses*  
23 *the firearm.*

24 *(2) Unlawful storage of a firearm is a Class B misdemeanor, unless the minor,*  
25 *without legal justification, uses the firearm in a manner which results in physical*  
26 *injury, serious physical injury, or death to the minor or another person, in which*  
27 *case it is a Class A misdemeanor.*