
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1505 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY V. BROWN, BULLOCK, THOMAS, DEAN, FRANKEL, KINSEY
AND WARREN, JUNE 6, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, JUNE 6, 2017

AN ACT

1 Providing for child firearm safety lock mechanisms; and
2 prescribing penalties.

3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
4 hereby enacts as follows:

5 Section 1. Short title.

6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Child Firearm
7 Safety Lock Act.

8 Section 2. Purposes.

9 The purposes of this act are as follows:

10 (1) To promote the safe storage and use of handguns by
11 consumers.

12 (2) To prevent unauthorized individuals from gaining
13 access to or using a handgun, including children.

14 (3) To avoid hindering industry from supplying law-
15 abiding citizens with firearms for all lawful purposes,
16 including hunting, self-defense, collecting and competitive
17 or recreational shooting.

18 Section 3. Definitions.

1 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
2 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
3 context clearly indicates otherwise:

4 "Licensee." A licensed manufacturer, importer or dealer of
5 firearms.

6 "Locking device." Includes the following:

7 (1) A device that, if installed on a firearm and secured
8 by means of a key or a mechanically, electronically or
9 electromechanically operated combination lock, prevents the
10 firearm from being discharged without first deactivating or
11 removing the device.

12 (2) A locking mechanism incorporated into the design of
13 a firearm that prevents discharge of the firearm by an
14 individual who does not have access to the key or other
15 device designed to unlock the mechanism.

16 Section 4. Locking device for firearms.

17 It shall be unlawful for a licensee to sell, deliver or
18 transfer a firearm to an individual other than another licensee
19 unless the transferee is provided with or purchases a locking
20 device for the firearm.

21 Section 5. Exceptions.

22 The following firearms are not subject to the provisions of
23 this act:

24 (1) Firearms for transfer to or possession by a law
25 enforcement officer employed by a Federal, State or local
26 government entity or rail police employed and certified by a
27 rail carrier as a police officer whether on or off duty.

28 (2) Firearms for transfer to an individual if the
29 firearm qualifies as an antique firearm under 18 Pa.C.S. §
30 6118 (relating to antique firearms).

1 (3) Firearms for transfer to an individual for which a
2 safety device is temporarily unavailable, provided that the
3 licensed manufacturer, licensed importer or licensed dealer
4 delivers to the transferee within 14 calendar days of the
5 original date of the delivery of the firearm a safety device
6 for the firearm.

7 Section 6. Penalties.

8 Failure to comply with the provisions of this act shall
9 result in:

10 (1) Suspension or revocation of a license issued to a
11 licensee.

12 (2) A civil penalty for a licensee of not more than
13 \$10,000.

14 Section 7. Civil immunity.

15 An individual who has lawful possession and control of a
16 firearm and who uses a safety device with the firearm shall be
17 entitled to immunity from civil liability for damages resulting
18 from the criminal or unlawful misuse of the firearm by a third
19 party if:

20 (1) the firearm was accessed by another individual who
21 did not have the permission or authorization of the
22 individual having lawful possession and control of the
23 firearm to have access to it; and

24 (2) at the time access was gained by the individual not
25 so authorized, the firearm had been made inoperable by use of
26 a safety device.

27 Section 8. Effective date.

28 This act shall take effect in 60 days.