

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 344 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY CRUZ, YOUNGBLOOD, DAVIDSON, McNEILL, HILL-EVANS AND MURT, FEBRUARY 1, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, FEBRUARY 1, 2019

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania  
 2 Consolidated Statutes, in firearms and other dangerous  
 3 articles, providing for firearm rental at shooting ranges.

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

6 Section 1. Title 18 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
 7 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

8 § 6111.6. Firearm rental at shooting ranges.

9 (a) Application process for firearm rental.--

10 (1) No owner or operator of a shooting range authorized  
 11 by the governing body of the jurisdiction in which the  
 12 shooting range is located may approve the rental of a firearm  
 13 to another person until a completed application for gun  
 14 rental is submitted by the person to the owner or operator.

15 (2) The application shall include, but may not be  
 16 limited to:

17 (i) The name, address, date of birth, gender, race,  
 18 physical description and Social Security number of the

1 applicant and the date of application.

2 (ii) Inspected photo identification of the  
3 applicant, including, but not limited to, a driver's  
4 license, official Pennsylvania photo identification card  
5 or official government photo identification card. In the  
6 case of an applicant who is a member of a recognized  
7 religious sect or community whose tenets forbid or  
8 discourage the taking of photographs of members of that  
9 sect or community, an owner or operator of a shooting  
10 range shall accept a valid-without-photo driver's license  
11 or a combination of documents, as prescribed by the  
12 Pennsylvania State Police, containing the applicant's  
13 name, address, date of birth and the signature of the  
14 applicant.

15 (iii) A criminal background, juvenile delinquency  
16 and mental health check of the applicant following the  
17 procedures under section 6111 (relating to sale or  
18 transfer of firearms).

19 (3) Approved applicants shall be permitted to rent a  
20 firearm after receiving a unique approval number for that  
21 inquiry from the Pennsylvania State Police with the date and  
22 the approval number recorded on their application form.

23 (4) All information provided by the applicant under this  
24 section, including, but not limited to, the applicant's name  
25 or identity, shall be confidential and not subject to public  
26 disclosure under the act of February 14, 2008 (P.L.6, No.3),  
27 known as the Right-to-Know Law.

28 (b) Use of firearm at shooting range.--The use of a rented  
29 firearm by persons approved under subsection (a) shall be  
30 lawful, provided the firearm is kept at the shooting range

1 during the entirety of its authorized rental.

2 (c) Yearly application renewal.--Upon initial approval of  
3 the applicant, the owner or operator of the shooting range and  
4 the applicant shall sign an agreement permitting the applicant's  
5 firearm rental for a period not to exceed one year. Should the  
6 applicant seek to rent a firearm after expiration of the time  
7 period specified in the agreement, the applicant and owner or  
8 operator shall again submit and complete the application  
9 required under subsection (a).

10 (d) Penalties.--In addition to any other sanction or penalty  
11 imposed by this chapter, a person, owner or operator of a  
12 shooting range, State or local governmental agency or department  
13 that violates this section shall be liable for civil damages in  
14 the amount of \$1,000 per occurrence or three times the actual  
15 damages incurred as a result of the violation, whichever is  
16 greater, as well as reasonable attorney fees.

17 (e) Definitions.--For purposes of this section, the term  
18 "shooting range" shall include an enclosed or open-air firing  
19 range or area designed and operated for the use of rifle or  
20 handgun practice with targets or any other facility that permits  
21 the rental of firearms for use on its property and that is  
22 authorized to operate as such by the governing body of the  
23 jurisdiction in which the shooting range is located.

24 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.