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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 556 Session of  
2025

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INTRODUCED BY DUSH, BARTOLOTTA, PHILLIPS-HILL, LAUGHLIN,  
STEFANO, J. WARD AND KEEFER, APRIL 9, 2025

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REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, APRIL 9, 2025

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, in firearms and other dangerous  
3 articles, further providing for registration of firearms; and  
4 imposing penalties.

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

7 Section 1. Section 6111.4 of Title 18 of the Pennsylvania  
8 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

9 § 6111.4. Registration of firearms.

10 (a) Prohibitions.--

11 (1) Notwithstanding any section of this chapter to the  
12 contrary, nothing in this chapter shall be construed to allow  
13 any government, local government, other political subdivision  
14 or law enforcement agency or any official, agent or employee  
15 thereof to create, maintain or operate any registry of  
16 firearm ownership within this Commonwealth. For the purposes  
17 of this section only, the term "firearm" shall include any  
18 weapon that is designed to or may readily be converted to  
19 expel any projectile by the action of an explosive or the

1 frame or receiver of any such weapon.

2 (2) A payment settlement entity, merchant acquiring  
3 entity or third party settlement organization as those terms  
4 are defined in 26 U.S.C. § 6050W (relating to returns  
5 relating to payments made in settlement of payment card and  
6 third party network transactions) may not assign a merchant  
7 category code to or otherwise classify a merchant that is a  
8 seller of firearms or ammunition separately from general  
9 merchandise retailers or sporting goods retailers.

10 (3) An entity involved in facilitating or processing a  
11 payment card transaction, including a financial institution,  
12 an acquirer, a payment card network or a payment card issuer,  
13 may not assign to or require a merchant to use a merchant  
14 category code that classifies the merchant as a firearms or  
15 ammunition retailer or places the merchant in a similar  
16 classification. A merchant of firearms or ammunition may be  
17 assigned or may use a merchant category code for general  
18 merchandise retailers or sporting goods retailers. Any  
19 agreement or contractual provision to the contrary is void in  
20 violation of the public policy of this State.

21 (b) Penalties.--

22 (1) A person or entity that violates subsection (a) (1)  
23 commits a felony of the third degree. The Attorney General or  
24 district attorney of the county where the alleged violation  
25 occurred shall investigate complaints of a violation of  
26 subsection (a) (1) and shall prosecute violators if evidence  
27 indicates that a violation may have occurred.

28 (2) The Department of Banking and Securities shall  
29 investigate alleged violations of subsection (a) (2) and (3)  
30 and, upon finding a violation, bring an administrative action

1 seeking to impose an administrative fine of no more than  
2 \$2,500 for each violation.

3 (c) Definition.--As used in this section, the term "firearm"  
4 means any weapon that is designed to or may readily be converted  
5 to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or the frame  
6 or receiver of the weapon.

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