

HOUSE BILL 1578

By Chism

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39,
relative to large-capacity magazines.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 13, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Large-capacity magazine" means an ammunition feeding device with capacity to accept more than ten (10) rounds; and

(2) "Manufacturing" includes both fabricating a magazine and assembling a magazine from a combination of parts, including, but not limited to, the body, spring, follower, and floor plate or end plate, to be a fully functioning large-capacity magazine.

(b)

(1) Except as provided in subdivision (b)(2), it is an offense for a person to possess a large-capacity magazine, regardless of the date on which the magazine was acquired.

(2) Subdivision (b)(1) does not apply to the sale, giving, lending, possession, importation into this state, or purchase of any large-capacity magazine to or by any federal, state, or local law enforcement agency, for use by agency employees in the discharge of official duties, whether on or off duty, and where the use is authorized by the agency and is within the course and scope of the employee's official duties.

(3) An offense under this subsection (b) is a Class B misdemeanor.

(c)

(1) Except as provided in subdivision (c)(2), it is an offense for a person to manufacture or cause to be manufactured, import, keep for sale, or offer or expose for sale, or to give, lend, buy, or receive a large-capacity magazine.

(2) Subdivision (c)(1) does not apply to the sale, giving, lending, possession, importation into this state, or purchase of any large-capacity magazine to or by any federal, state, or local law enforcement agency, for use by agency employees in the discharge of official duties, whether on or off duty, and where the use is authorized by the agency and is within the course and scope of the employee's duties.

(3) An offense under this subsection (c) is a Class A misdemeanor.

(d) A person who is not lawfully authorized to possess a large-capacity magazine pursuant to subsections (b) and (c) shall:

(1) Remove the large-capacity magazine from the state;

(2) Sell the large-capacity magazine to a licensed firearms dealer; or

(3) Surrender the large-capacity magazine to a law enforcement agency for destruction.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect January 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.