

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 769 Session of 2025

INTRODUCED BY SANTARSIERO, CAPPELLETTI, COLLETT, STREET,
SCHWANK, KEARNEY, FONTANA, COMMITTA, HAYWOOD, SAVAL, COSTA,
TARTAGLIONE, KANE, KIM, MUTH AND L. WILLIAMS, MAY 22, 2025

REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, MAY 22, 2025

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in firearms and other dangerous
3 articles, providing for safe storage of firearm when not in
4 use; and imposing penalties.

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

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

9 § 6143. Safe storage of firearm when not in use.

10 (a) Storage requirements.--A person who owns a firearm shall
11 secure the firearm:

12 (1) with a device that, if installed on a firearm and
13 secured by means of a key or a mechanical, electronic or
14 electromechanical combination lock, prevents the firearm from
15 being discharged without first deactivating or removing the
16 device;

17 (2) with a locking mechanism incorporated into the
18 design of the firearm that prevents discharge of the firearm

1 by an individual who does not have access to the key or other
2 device designed to unlock the mechanism; or

3 (3) in a securely locked box or container or a location
4 that a reasonable person would believe to be secure.

5 (b) Exception.--Subsection (a) shall not apply if a person
6 carries a firearm:

7 (1) on the person's body; or

8 (2) within close enough proximity to the person's body
9 that the person is able to retrieve and use the firearm as if
10 the firearm was on the person's body.

11 (c) Penalties.--A person who violates subsection (a)
12 commits:

13 (1) A summary offense with no term of imprisonment if
14 the offense is a first offense.

15 (2) A misdemeanor of the third degree if the offense is
16 a second or subsequent offense.

17 (3) A felony of the third degree if:

18 (i) another person takes possession of the firearm;
19 and

20 (ii) the firearm is used in the commission of a
21 crime or used in an event that results in the injury or
22 death of another person.

23 (d) Defenses.--It shall be a defense to prosecution under
24 this section if any of the following apply:

25 (1) The firearm was secured in a manner described under
26 subsection (a).

27 (2) The firearm was obtained as a result of an unlawful
28 entry by any person.

29 (3) An injury resulted from a target or sport shooting
30 accident or hunting accident.

1 (4) Possession of the firearm is incidental to the
2 performance of the official duties of the United States Armed
3 Forces, the Pennsylvania National Guard or the personnel of a
4 Federal, State or local law enforcement agency.

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