

2016 -- H 7332

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

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A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - WEAPONS

Introduced By: Representatives Casey, Chippendale, Keable, Newberry, and Solomon

Date Introduced: January 27, 2016

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 11-47-35.2 of the General Laws in Chapter 11-47 entitled  
2 "Weapons" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **11-47-35.2. Sale of rifles/shotguns. --** (a) No person shall deliver a rifle or shotgun to a  
4 purchaser until seven (7) days shall have elapsed from twelve o'clock (12:00) noon of the day  
5 following the day of application for the purchase, and when delivered, the rifle or shotgun shall  
6 be unloaded and securely wrapped, with the bill of sale for it to be enclosed within the wrapper  
7 with the rifle or shotgun. Any citizen of the United States and/or lawful resident of this state who  
8 is eighteen (18) years of age or older, and any non-resident member of the armed forces of the  
9 United States who is stationed in this state and who is eighteen (18) years of age or older, may,  
10 upon application, purchase or acquire a rifle or shotgun. At the time of applying for the purchase  
11 of a shotgun or rifle the purchaser shall complete and sign in triplicate and deliver to the seller the  
12 application form described in this section, and in no case shall it contain the serial number of the  
13 rifle or shotgun.

14 (b) The person who is selling the rifle or shotgun shall, on the date of application, sign  
15 and forward by registered mail or by delivery in person, the original and duplicate copies of the  
16 application to the superintendent of the Rhode Island state police or the chief of police in the city  
17 or town in which the seller has his or her residence or place of business. The superintendent of the  
18 Rhode Island state police or the chief of police in the city or town in which the person has his or  
19 her residence or place of business shall mark or stamp the original copy of the application form

1 with the date and time of receipt and return it by the most expeditious means to the seller. The  
2 triplicate copy duly signed by the seller shall within seven (7) days be sent by him or her by  
3 registered mail to the attorney general. The person shall retain the original copy duly received by  
4 the police authority to whom sent or delivered for a period of six (6) years with other records of  
5 the sale. It shall be the duty of the police authority to whom the duplicate copy of the application  
6 form is sent or delivered to make a background check of the applicant to ascertain whether he or  
7 she falls under the provisions of § 11-47-5, 11-47-6, 11-47-7, or 11-47-23. If, after the lapse of  
8 seven (7) days from twelve o'clock (12:00) noon of the day following application, no  
9 disqualifying information has been received from the investigating police authority by the person  
10 who is selling the rifle or shotgun, he or she will deliver the firearm applied for to the applicant.  
11 Upon the finding of no disqualifying information under the provisions of the above cited sections  
12 of this chapter, and in no case later than thirty (30) days after the date of application, the ~~duplicate~~  
13 ~~and triplicate copies~~ records of the application will be destroyed. Retention of the ~~duplicate and~~  
14 ~~triplicate copies~~ records in violation of this chapter or any unauthorized use of the information  
15 contained in them by a person or agency shall be punishable by a fine of not more than one  
16 thousand dollars (\$1,000). The provisions of this section shall not apply to bona fide sales at  
17 wholesale to duly licensed retail dealers, nor to purchases by retail dealers duly licensed under the  
18 provisions of § 11-47-39. (c) The provisions of this section shall not apply to full-time members  
19 of the state police, full-time members of city or town police departments, persons licensed under  
20 §§ 11-47-9 and 11-47-11, or to sales of air rifles or " BB guns" or to sales of antique firearms as  
21 defined in § 11-47-2.

22 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES - WEAPONS

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- 1           This act would delete unnecessary language with regard to the destruction of application
- 2 records for the purchase of a rifle or shotgun, if an applicant is not otherwise disqualified under
- 3 any other applicable provision of the general laws.
- 4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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