

HOUSE BILL 2794

By Johnson G

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39,  
Chapter 17, Part 13, relative to firearms.

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) A person commits an offense who knowingly or recklessly:

(1) Permits a child under twelve (12) years of age to have access to or possession, custody, or use in any manner, of a firearm, whether loaded or unloaded; or

(2) Sells, loans, or makes a gift of a firearm to a minor under eighteen (18) years of age.

(b) It is a defense to prosecution under subsection (a) that:

(1) The person has the permission of the child's parent or guardian, and the child is under the supervision of an adult;

(2) The firearm was used for the purpose of hunting, trapping, fishing, camping, sport shooting, or any other lawful sporting activity; and

(3) For a violation of subdivision (a)(2), the person is not required to obtain a license under § 39-17-1316.

(c) A violation of this section is a Class A misdemeanor.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-1303, is amended by deleting subdivision (a)(1) and subsection (b).

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-1320(c), is amended by deleting the language "Class A misdemeanor" and substituting instead the language "Class E felony".

SECTION 4. This act takes effect July 1, 2022, the public welfare requiring it.