

HOUSE BILL 7012

By Lamberth

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 13 and Title 67, Chapter 6, Part 3, relative to firearm safety.

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) The department of safety shall provide free firearm locks to a Tennessee resident upon the resident's request. The department of safety shall prominently display on the department's website instructions for requesting free firearm locks.

(b) The department shall collaborate with the Tennessee bureau of investigation, and other state agencies as the department deems appropriate, to create a public safety campaign dedicated to safe firearm storage.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-1351(e), is amended by adding "Beginning October 1, 2023, all department-approved handgun safety courses shall include instruction on the safe storage of firearms." before the last sentence.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-1366(l)(1), is amended by deleting "storage methods" and substituting "safe storage methods".

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 67-6-393, is amended by deleting subsection (i).

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 67, Chapter 6, Part 3, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) There is exempt from the tax imposed by this chapter the retail sale of firearm safes and firearm safety devices.

(b) As used in this section:

(1) "Firearm safe" means a locking container or other enclosure, excluding glass-faced containers, equipped with a padlock, key lock, combination lock, or other locking device that is designed and intended for the secure storage of one (1) or more firearms; and

(2) "Firearm safety device" means:

(A) A device that, when installed on a firearm, is designed to prevent the firearm from being operated without first deactivating the device; or

(B) A device to be equipped or installed on a firearm that is designed to prevent the operation of the firearm by anyone who does not have authorized access to the firearm.

SECTION 6. Section 5 of this act takes effect November 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it. All other sections of this act take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.