



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 5043**

February Session, 2026



**AN ACT CONCERNING CONVERTIBLE PISTOLS AND UNFINISHED FRAMES OR UNFINISHED LOWER RECEIVERS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 53-202 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
3 *1, 2026*):

4 (a) As used in this section: (1) "Machine gun" [shall apply to and  
5 include] means (A) a weapon of any description, loaded or unloaded,  
6 [which] that shoots, is designed to shoot or can be readily restored to  
7 shoot automatically more than one projectile, without manual  
8 reloading, by a single function of the trigger, including any convertible  
9 pistol that is equipped with a pistol converter, as defined in subsection  
10 (c) of section 53-206g, as amended by this act, and [shall also include]  
11 (B) any part or combination of parts designed for use in converting a  
12 weapon into a machine gun and any combination of parts from which a  
13 machine gun can be assembled if such parts are in the possession of or  
14 under the control of a person. (2) "Crime of violence" [shall apply to and  
15 include] means any of the following-named crimes or an attempt to  
16 commit any of the same: Murder, manslaughter, kidnapping, sexual  
17 assault and sexual assault with a firearm, assault in the first or second  
18 degree, robbery, burglary, larceny and riot in the first degree. (3)  
19 "Projectile" means any size bullet that when affixed to any cartridge case

20 may be propelled through the bore of a machine gun. (4) "Convertible  
21 pistol" means any semiautomatic pistol with a cruciform trigger bar that  
22 can be readily altered by hand or with a common household tool so that  
23 the pistol can be readily converted into a machine gun by the installation  
24 or attachment of a pistol converter, as defined in subsection (c) of section  
25 53-206g, as amended by this act. "Convertible pistol" does not include  
26 (A) any hammer-fired semiautomatic pistol, or (B) a pistol with a tab or  
27 other piece of material that shields the cruciform trigger bar from  
28 interference by a pistol converter so that the pistol can be readily  
29 converted into a machine gun by the installation or attachment of a  
30 pistol converter. (5) "Cruciform trigger bar" means a component in a  
31 semiautomatic pistol that serves as a linkage between the trigger and  
32 firing pin and has its sear incorporated in a cross-shaped surface. (6)  
33 "Common household tool" includes, but is not limited to, a screwdriver,  
34 wrench, hacksaw, crowbar, electric drill, rotary tool, hammer, chisel or  
35 file or pliers.

36 Sec. 2. Subsection (c) of section 53-206g of the 2026 supplement to the  
37 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
38 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

39 (c) For purposes of this section, (1) "firearm" means firearm as defined  
40 in section 53a-3, as amended by this act, [and] (2) "rate of fire  
41 enhancement" means (A) any device, component, part, combination of  
42 parts, attachment or accessory that: [(1)] (i) Uses energy from the recoil  
43 of a firearm to generate a reciprocating action that causes repeated  
44 function of the trigger, including, but not limited to, a bump stock; [(2)]  
45 (ii) repeatedly pulls the trigger of a firearm through the use of a crank,  
46 lever or other part, including, but not limited to, a trigger crank; or [(3)]  
47 (iii) causes a semiautomatic firearm to fire more than one round per  
48 operation of the trigger, where the trigger pull and reset constitute a  
49 single operation of the trigger, including, but not limited to, a binary  
50 trigger system or a pistol converter, or (B) any other device, part,  
51 combination of parts, kit, tool or accessory that is not necessary for the  
52 function of the pistol and that, when built into, installed in or attached  
53 to the pistol, increases the rate of fire above the rate at which a person

54 can fire the firearm without the device, part, combination of parts, kit,  
55 tool or accessory, and (3) "pistol converter" means any device or  
56 instrument that, when installed in or attached to the rear of the slide of  
57 a semiautomatic pistol, interferes with the trigger mechanism, thereby  
58 enabling the pistol to discharge a number of shots or bullets rapidly or  
59 automatically with one continuous pull of the trigger.

60       Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) Any individual or firm,  
61 partnership, corporation, limited liability company, association or other  
62 similar entity that imports into this state or advertises, sells, offers or  
63 exposes for sale any convertible pistol, as defined in section 53-202 of  
64 the general statutes, as amended by this act, that was manufactured on  
65 or after October 1, 2026, shall be guilty of a class D felony.

66       (b) The provisions of this section shall not apply to sale at retail or  
67 other lawful transfer of a convertible pistol by a person who is not a  
68 licensed gun dealer to another person who is not a licensed gun dealer.

69       Sec. 4. Section 53a-3 of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is  
70 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
71 *1, 2026*):

72       Except where different meanings are expressly specified, the  
73 following terms have the following meanings when used in this title:

74       (1) "Person" means a human being, and, where appropriate, a public  
75 or private corporation, a limited liability company, an unincorporated  
76 association, a partnership, a government or a governmental  
77 instrumentality;

78       (2) "Possess" means to have physical possession or otherwise to  
79 exercise dominion or control over tangible property;

80       (3) "Physical injury" means impairment of physical condition or pain;

81       (4) "Serious physical injury" means physical injury which creates a  
82 substantial risk of death, or which causes serious disfigurement, serious  
83 impairment of health or serious loss or impairment of the function of

84 any bodily organ;

85 (5) "Deadly physical force" means physical force which can be  
86 reasonably expected to cause death or serious physical injury;

87 (6) "Deadly weapon" means any weapon, whether loaded or  
88 unloaded, from which a shot may be discharged, or a switchblade knife,  
89 gravity knife, billy, blackjack, bludgeon, or metal knuckles. The  
90 definition of "deadly weapon" in this subdivision shall be deemed not  
91 to apply to section 29-38 or 53-206 and does not include an electronic  
92 defense weapon when used by a peace officer;

93 (7) "Dangerous instrument" means any instrument, article or  
94 substance which, under the circumstances in which it is used or  
95 attempted or threatened to be used, is capable of causing death or  
96 serious physical injury, and includes a "vehicle" as that term is defined  
97 in this section and includes a dog that has been commanded to attack,  
98 except a dog owned by a law enforcement agency of the state or any  
99 political subdivision thereof or of the federal government when such  
100 dog is in the performance of its duties under the direct supervision, care  
101 and control of an assigned law enforcement officer;

102 (8) "Vehicle" means a "motor vehicle" as defined in section 14-1, a  
103 snowmobile, any aircraft, or any vessel equipped for propulsion by  
104 mechanical means or sail;

105 (9) "Peace officer" means a member of the Division of State Police  
106 within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection or  
107 an organized local police department, a chief inspector or inspector in  
108 the Division of Criminal Justice, a state marshal while exercising  
109 authority granted under any provision of the general statutes, a judicial  
110 marshal in the performance of the duties of a judicial marshal, a  
111 conservation officer or special conservation officer, as defined in section  
112 26-5, a constable who performs criminal law enforcement duties, a  
113 special policeman appointed under section 29-18, 29-18a, 29-18b or 29-  
114 19, an adult probation officer, an official of the Department of Correction  
115 authorized by the Commissioner of Correction to make arrests in a

116 correctional institution or facility, any investigator in the investigations  
117 unit of the office of the State Treasurer, an inspector of motor vehicles in  
118 the Department of Motor Vehicles, who is certified under the provisions  
119 of sections 7-294a to 7-294e, inclusive, a United States marshal or deputy  
120 marshal, any special agent of the federal government authorized to  
121 enforce the provisions of Title 21 of the United States Code, or a member  
122 of a law enforcement unit of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe or the  
123 Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut created and governed by a  
124 memorandum of agreement under section 47-65c who is certified as a  
125 police officer by the Police Officer Standards and Training Council  
126 pursuant to sections 7-294a to 7-294e, inclusive;

127 (10) "Firefighter" means any agent of a municipality whose duty it is  
128 to protect life and property therein as a member of a duly constituted  
129 fire department whether professional or volunteer;

130 (11) A person acts "intentionally" with respect to a result or to conduct  
131 described by a statute defining an offense when his conscious objective  
132 is to cause such result or to engage in such conduct;

133 (12) A person acts "knowingly" with respect to conduct or to a  
134 circumstance described by a statute defining an offense when he is  
135 aware that his conduct is of such nature or that such circumstance exists;

136 (13) A person acts "recklessly" with respect to a result or to a  
137 circumstance described by a statute defining an offense when he is  
138 aware of and consciously disregards a substantial and unjustifiable risk  
139 that such result will occur or that such circumstance exists. The risk  
140 must be of such nature and degree that disregarding it constitutes a  
141 gross deviation from the standard of conduct that a reasonable person  
142 would observe in the situation;

143 (14) A person acts with "criminal negligence" with respect to a result  
144 or to a circumstance described by a statute defining an offense when he  
145 fails to perceive a substantial and unjustifiable risk that such result will  
146 occur or that such circumstance exists. The risk must be of such nature  
147 and degree that the failure to perceive it constitutes a gross deviation

148 from the standard of care that a reasonable person would observe in the  
149 situation;

150 (15) "Machine gun" means a weapon of any description, irrespective  
151 of size, by whatever name known, loaded or unloaded, from which a  
152 number of shots or bullets may be rapidly or automatically discharged  
153 from a magazine with one continuous pull of the trigger and includes a  
154 submachine gun and any convertible pistol, as defined in section 53-202,  
155 as amended by this act, that is in the possession of an individual person  
156 who is also in the possession of a pistol converter, as defined in  
157 subsection (c) of section 53-206g, as amended by this act;

158 (16) "Rifle" means a weapon designed or redesigned, made or  
159 remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed or  
160 redesigned and made or remade to use the energy of the explosive in a  
161 fixed metallic cartridge to fire only a single projectile through a rifled  
162 bore for each single pull of the trigger;

163 (17) "Shotgun" means a weapon designed or redesigned, made or  
164 remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed or  
165 redesigned and made or remade to use the energy of the explosive in a  
166 fixed shotgun shell to fire through a smooth bore either a number of ball  
167 shot or a single projectile for each single pull of the trigger;

168 (18) "Pistol" or "revolver" means any firearm having a barrel less than  
169 twelve inches;

170 (19) "Firearm" means any sawed-off shotgun, machine gun, rifle,  
171 shotgun, pistol, revolver or other weapon, whether loaded or unloaded  
172 from which a shot may be discharged;

173 (20) "Electronic defense weapon" means a weapon which by  
174 electronic impulse or current is capable of immobilizing a person  
175 temporarily, including a stun gun or other conductive energy device;

176 (21) "Martial arts weapon" means a nunchaku, kama, kasari-fundo,  
177 octagon sai, tonfa or chinese star;

178 (22) "Employee of an emergency medical service organization" means  
179 an ambulance driver, emergency medical technician or paramedic as  
180 defined in section 19a-175;

181 (23) "Railroad property" means all tangible property owned, leased  
182 or operated by a railroad carrier including, but not limited to, a right-of-  
183 way, track, roadbed, bridge, yard, shop, station, tunnel, viaduct, trestle,  
184 depot, warehouse, terminal or any other structure or appurtenance or  
185 equipment owned, leased or used in the operation of a railroad carrier  
186 including a train, locomotive, engine, railroad car, signals or safety  
187 device or work equipment or rolling stock;

188 (24) "Serious firearm offense" means a violation of section 29-36, 29-  
189 36a, as amended by this act, or 53-202w possession of a stolen firearm or  
190 a firearm that is altered in a manner that renders the firearm unlawful,  
191 or any crime of which an essential element is that the person discharged,  
192 used or was armed with and threatened the use of a firearm; and

193 (25) "Serious firearm offender" means a person who has (A) two  
194 convictions for a serious firearm offense, (B) a conviction for a serious  
195 firearm offense and was previously convicted of a violation of section  
196 29-36, 29-36a, as amended by this act, subdivision (1) of subsection (a)  
197 of section 53a-217 or subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 53a-217c,  
198 or (C) a conviction for a serious firearm offense and was previously  
199 convicted of two or more additional felony offenses.

200 Sec. 5. Section 53-206j of the general statutes is repealed and the  
201 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

202 (a) No person shall purchase or receive or sell, deliver or otherwise  
203 transfer an unfinished frame or unfinished lower receiver, except as  
204 provided in: (1) Subsections (b) and (c) of this section; or (2) subsection  
205 (d) of this section; or (3) subsection (e) of this section.

206 (b) The procedures for the purchase or receipt or sale, delivery or  
207 other transfer of an unfinished frame or unfinished lower receiver shall  
208 be the same procedures as apply to the purchase or receipt or sale,

209 delivery or other transfer of a pistol or revolver under subsections (b) to  
210 (e), inclusive, of section 29-33, provided such purchase or receipt or sale,  
211 delivery or other transfer of an unfinished frame or unfinished lower  
212 receiver is in accordance with the provisions of subsection (c) of this  
213 section.

214 (c) (1) No person shall sell, deliver or otherwise transfer an unfinished  
215 frame or unfinished lower receiver pursuant to subsection (b) of this  
216 section that does not have a unique serial number or other mark of  
217 identification, obtained pursuant to: (A) The serial numbering program  
218 of the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, or  
219 (B) subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection.

220 (2) A person may obtain a unique serial number or other mark of  
221 identification for an unfinished frame or unfinished lower receiver by  
222 providing to the Department of Emergency Services and Public  
223 Protection any identifying information concerning the unfinished frame  
224 or unfinished lower receiver and the owner of such unfinished frame or  
225 unfinished lower receiver, in a manner prescribed by the Commissioner  
226 of Emergency Services and Public Protection. Upon receiving a properly  
227 submitted request for a unique serial number or other mark of  
228 identification for an unfinished frame or unfinished lower receiver, the  
229 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall  
230 determine if such person is prohibited from purchasing a firearm, and  
231 if not, shall issue to such person a unique serial number or other mark  
232 of identification immediately and in no instance more than (A) three  
233 business days after the Department of Emergency Services and Public  
234 Protection receives such request, or (B) ten business days after the  
235 system to distribute a unique serial number or other mark of  
236 identification pursuant to section 29-36b, as amended by this act, is  
237 operational, whichever date is later.

238 (3) Such unique serial number or other mark of identification shall be  
239 engraved upon or permanently affixed to the unfinished frame or  
240 unfinished lower receiver in a manner that conforms with the  
241 requirements imposed on licensed importers and licensed



242 manufacturers of firearms pursuant to 18 USC 923(i), as amended from  
243 time to time, and any regulation adopted thereunder.

244 (d) The provisions of subsections (a) to (c), inclusive, of this section  
245 shall not apply to the sale, delivery or transfer of any unfinished frame  
246 or unfinished lower receiver between (1) a federally licensed firearm  
247 manufacturer and a federally licensed firearm dealer, (2) a federally  
248 licensed firearm importer and a federally licensed firearm dealer, or (3)  
249 federally licensed firearm dealers.

250 (e) Any person may arrange in advance to deliver and transfer an  
251 unfinished frame or unfinished lower receiver to a police department or  
252 the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection.

253 (f) On and after October 1, 2019, no person shall possess an unfinished  
254 frame or unfinished lower receiver unless such person is eligible to  
255 purchase a firearm under state and federal law.

256 (g) If the court finds that a violation of this section is not of a serious  
257 nature and that the person charged with such violation (1) will probably  
258 not offend in the future, (2) has not previously been convicted of a  
259 violation of this section, and (3) has not previously had a prosecution  
260 under this section suspended pursuant to this subsection, the court may  
261 order suspension of prosecution. The court shall not order suspension  
262 of prosecution unless the accused person has acknowledged that he or  
263 she understands the consequences of the suspension of prosecution.  
264 Any person for whom prosecution is suspended shall agree to the  
265 tolling of any statute of limitations with respect to such violation and to  
266 a waiver of his or her right to a speedy trial. Such person shall appear in  
267 court and shall be released to the supervision of the Court Support  
268 Services Division for such period, not exceeding two years, and under  
269 such conditions as the court shall order. If the person refuses to accept,  
270 or, having accepted, violates such conditions, the court shall terminate  
271 the suspension of prosecution and the case shall be brought to trial. If  
272 such person satisfactorily completes such person's period of probation,  
273 he or she may apply for dismissal of the charges against such person

274 and the court, on finding such satisfactory completion, shall dismiss  
275 such charges. If the person does not apply for dismissal of the charges  
276 against such person after satisfactorily completing such person's period  
277 of probation, the court, upon receipt of a report submitted by the Court  
278 Support Services Division that the person satisfactorily completed such  
279 person's period of probation, may on its own motion make a finding of  
280 such satisfactory completion and dismiss such charges. Upon dismissal,  
281 all records of such charges shall be erased pursuant to section 54-142a.  
282 An order of the court denying a motion to dismiss the charges against a  
283 person who has completed such person's period of probation or  
284 terminating the participation of a defendant in such program shall be a  
285 final judgment for purposes of appeal.

286 (h) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be  
287 guilty of a class C felony for which two years of the sentence imposed  
288 may not be suspended or reduced by the court, and five thousand  
289 dollars of the fine imposed may not be remitted or reduced by the court  
290 unless the court states on the record its reasons for remitting or reducing  
291 such fine, except that any person who sells, delivers or otherwise  
292 transfers an unfinished frame or unfinished lower receiver in violation  
293 of the provisions of this section knowing that such unfinished frame or  
294 unfinished lower receiver is stolen or that the manufacturer's number or  
295 other mark of identification on such unfinished frame or unfinished  
296 lower receiver has been altered, removed or obliterated, shall be guilty  
297 of a class B felony for which three years of the sentence imposed may  
298 not be suspended or reduced by the court, and ten thousand dollars of  
299 the fine imposed may not be remitted or reduced by the court unless the  
300 court states on the record its reasons for remitting or reducing such fine,  
301 and any unfinished frame or unfinished lower receiver found in the  
302 possession of any person in violation of any provision of this section  
303 shall be forfeited.

304 (i) For purposes of this section, ["unfinished frame or lower receiver"]  
305 "unfinished frame or unfinished lower receiver" means a blank, casting,  
306 [or machined body intended to be turned into the frame or lower  
307 receiver of a firearm, as defined in section 53a-3, with additional

308 machining, and which has been formed or machined to the point where  
309 most major machining operations have been completed to turn the  
310 blank, casting or machined body into a frame or lower receiver of a  
311 firearm, even if the fire-control cavity area of such blank, casting or  
312 machined body is still completely solid and unmachined. An  
313 "unfinished frame or lower receiver" is not a firearm, as defined in 18  
314 USC 921(a), as amended from time to time] forging, printing, extrusion,  
315 machined body or similar item that (1) has reached a stage in  
316 manufacture where it may readily be completed into the frame or  
317 receiver of a functional firearm; or (2) is marketed or sold to the public  
318 to become or be used as the frame or receiver of a functional firearm  
319 once completed.

320 Sec. 6. Subsection (b) of section 29-28 of the 2026 supplement to the  
321 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
322 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

323 (b) (1) No person who sells ten or more firearms in a calendar year or  
324 is a federally licensed firearm dealer shall advertise, sell, deliver, or offer  
325 or expose for sale or delivery, or have in such person's possession with  
326 intent to sell or deliver, any pistol or revolver at retail without having a  
327 permit therefor issued as provided in this subsection. No individual or  
328 firm, partnership, corporation, limited liability company, association or  
329 other similar entity may within this state advertise, sell, deliver or offer  
330 or expose for sale or delivery, or have in such individual's or firm's,  
331 partnership's, corporation's, limited liability company's, association's or  
332 other similar entity's possession with the intent to sell at retail or deliver,  
333 any unfinished frame or unfinished lower receiver, as defined in section  
334 53-206j, as amended by this act, without having a permit therefor issued  
335 as provided in this subsection.

336 (2) The local permitting authority may, upon the application of any  
337 person, issue a permit in such form as may be prescribed by the  
338 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection for the sale  
339 at retail of firearms within the jurisdiction of the local permitting  
340 authority. No permit for the sale at retail of firearms shall be issued

341 unless the applicant holds a valid eligibility certificate for a pistol or  
342 revolver issued pursuant to section 29-36f or a valid state permit to carry  
343 a pistol or revolver issued pursuant to subsection (c) of this section; and  
344 the applicant submits documentation sufficient to establish that local  
345 zoning requirements have been met for the location where the sale is to  
346 take place, except that any person selling or exchanging a pistol or  
347 revolver for the enhancement of a personal collection or for a hobby or  
348 who sells all or part of such person's personal collection of pistols or  
349 revolvers shall not be required to submit such documentation for the  
350 location where the sale or exchange is to take place.

351 (3) Any person holding a valid permit for the sale at retail of pistols  
352 or revolvers issued on or before September 30, 2023, shall be deemed to  
353 be a holder of a valid permit for the sale at retail of firearms until such  
354 permit for the sale at retail of pistols or revolvers expires or is revoked,  
355 suspended, confiscated or surrendered. The holder of such permit may  
356 renew such permit as a permit for the sale at retail of firearms pursuant  
357 to section 29-30.

358 Sec. 7. Subdivision (2) of section 52-571o of the 2026 supplement to  
359 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
360 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

361 (2) "Firearm industry product" means any of the following which are  
362 or were (A) sold, made or distributed in this state; or (B) possessed in  
363 this state and it was known by the firearm industry member that such  
364 product would be sold, made, distributed or possessed in this state:

365 (i) Ammunition or a magazine as those terms are defined in section  
366 29-38m;

367 (ii) A firearm as defined in section 53a-3, as amended by this act;

368 (iii) An unfinished frame or unfinished lower receiver as defined in  
369 section 53-206j, as amended by this act; or

370 (iv) A rate of [firearm] fire enhancement as defined in section 53-206g,

371 as amended by this act.

372 Sec. 8. Subsection (d) of section 29-36a of the general statutes is  
373 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
374 *1, 2026*):

375 (d) The provisions of subsections (a), (b) and (c) of this section shall  
376 not apply to the manufacture of a firearm manufactured using an  
377 unfinished frame or unfinished lower receiver, as defined in section 53-  
378 206j, as amended by this act, on which a serial number or other mark  
379 has been engraved or permanently affixed pursuant to subsection (c) of  
380 section 53-206j, as amended by this act.

381 Sec. 9. Section 29-36b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
382 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

383 Not later than October 1, 2019, the Department of Emergency Services  
384 and Public Protection, in consultation with the federal Bureau of  
385 Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives as needed, shall develop and  
386 maintain a system to distribute a unique serial number or other mark of  
387 identification to any person requesting such number or mark pursuant  
388 to section 29-36a or 53-206j, as amended by this act, and provide written  
389 notification that such system is operational by: (1) Posting the  
390 notification on the department's Internet web site, and (2) providing the  
391 notification electronically to federally licensed firearm dealers. The  
392 department shall maintain identifying information of the person  
393 requesting the number or mark and of the firearm or unfinished frame  
394 or unfinished lower receiver, as defined in section 53-206j, as amended  
395 by this act, for which each such number or mark is requested.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	53-202(a)
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	53-206g(c)
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	53a-3
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	53-206j

Sec. 6	October 1, 2026	29-28(b)
Sec. 7	October 1, 2026	52-571o(2)
Sec. 8	October 1, 2026	29-36a(d)
Sec. 9	October 1, 2026	29-36b

**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**

In Section 7 (2)(iv), "rate of firearm enhancement" was changed to "rate of [firearm] fire enhancement" for accuracy.

**JUD**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*