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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 226 Session of  
2023

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INTRODUCED BY PARKER, HOHENSTEIN, HILL-EVANS, KINKEAD, SANCHEZ,  
KINSEY, MADDEN, SCHLOSSBERG, SAPPEY AND FIEDLER,  
MARCH 10, 2023

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, MARCH 10, 2023

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, in firearms and other dangerous  
3 articles, further providing for definitions, for sale or  
4 transfer of firearms and for Pennsylvania State Police and  
5 providing for self-exclusion from purchasing a firearm.

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

8 Section 1. Section 6102 of Title 18 of the Pennsylvania  
9 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a definition to read:

10 § 6102. Definitions.

11 Subject to additional definitions contained in subsequent  
12 provisions of this subchapter which are applicable to specific  
13 provisions of this subchapter, the following words and phrases,  
14 when used in this subchapter shall have, unless the context  
15 clearly indicates otherwise, the meanings given to them in this  
16 section:

17 \* \* \*

18 "Voluntary self-exclusion list." The list established under  
19 section 6129 (relating to self-exclusion from purchasing a

1 firearm) and maintained by the Pennsylvania State Police of  
2 names and identifying information of persons who have  
3 voluntarily agreed to be prohibited from purchasing a firearm or  
4 receiving a firearm by transfer.

5 Section 2. Sections 6111(b)(1.1), (3) and (6) and 6111.1(b)  
6 (1) and (3) of Title 18 are amended to read:

7 § 6111. Sale or transfer of firearms.

8 \* \* \*

9 (b) Duty of seller.--No licensed importer, licensed  
10 manufacturer or licensed dealer shall sell or deliver any  
11 firearm to another person, other than a licensed importer,  
12 licensed manufacturer, licensed dealer or licensed collector,  
13 until the conditions of subsection (a) have been satisfied and  
14 until he has:

15 \* \* \*

16 (1.1) On the date of publication in the Pennsylvania  
17 Bulletin of a notice by the Pennsylvania State Police that  
18 the instantaneous records check has been implemented, all of  
19 the following shall apply:

20 (i) In the event of an electronic failure under  
21 section 6111.1(b)(2) (relating to Pennsylvania State  
22 Police) for purposes of a firearm which exceeds the  
23 barrel and related lengths set forth in section 6102,  
24 obtained a completed application/record of sale from the  
25 potential buyer or transferee to be filled out in  
26 triplicate, the original copy to be sent to the  
27 Pennsylvania State Police, postmarked via first class  
28 mail, within 14 days of sale, one copy to be retained by  
29 the licensed importer, licensed manufacturer or licensed  
30 dealer for a period of 20 years and one copy to be

1 provided to the purchaser or transferee.

2 (ii) The form of the application/record of sale  
3 shall be no more than one page in length and shall be  
4 promulgated by the Pennsylvania State Police and provided  
5 by the licensed importer, licensed manufacturer or  
6 licensed dealer.

7 (iii) For purposes of conducting the criminal  
8 history, juvenile delinquency, voluntary self-exclusion  
9 list and mental health records background check which  
10 shall be completed within ten days of receipt of the  
11 information from the dealer, the application/record of  
12 sale shall include the name, address, birthdate, gender,  
13 race, physical description and Social Security number of  
14 the purchaser or transferee and the date of application.

15 (iv) No information regarding the type of firearm  
16 need be included other than an indication that the  
17 firearm exceeds the barrel lengths set forth in section  
18 6102.

19 (v) Unless it has been discovered pursuant to a  
20 criminal history, juvenile delinquency, voluntary self-  
21 exclusion list and mental health records background check  
22 that the potential purchaser or transferee is prohibited  
23 from possessing a firearm pursuant to section 6105  
24 (relating to persons not to possess, use, manufacture,  
25 control, sell or transfer firearms) or that the potential  
26 purchaser or transferee is prohibited from purchasing or  
27 receiving a firearm because the potential purchaser or  
28 transferee's name appears on the voluntary self-exclusion  
29 list, no information on the application/record of sale  
30 provided pursuant to this subsection shall be retained as

1 precluded by section 6111.4 (relating to registration of  
2 firearms) by the Pennsylvania State Police either through  
3 retention of the application/record of sale or by  
4 entering the information onto a computer, and, further,  
5 an application/record of sale received by the  
6 Pennsylvania State Police pursuant to this subsection  
7 shall be destroyed within 72 hours of the completion of  
8 the criminal history, juvenile delinquency and mental  
9 health records background check.

10 \* \* \*

11 (3) Requested by means of a telephone call that the  
12 Pennsylvania State Police conduct a criminal history,  
13 juvenile delinquency history, check of the voluntary self-  
14 exclusion list and a mental health record check. The  
15 purchaser and the licensed dealer shall provide such  
16 information as is necessary to accurately identify the  
17 purchaser. The requester shall be charged a fee equivalent to  
18 the cost of providing the service but not to exceed \$2 per  
19 buyer or transferee.

20 \* \* \*

21 (6) Unless it has been discovered pursuant to a criminal  
22 history, juvenile delinquency [and], mental health records  
23 background check and check of the voluntary self-exclusion  
24 list that the potential purchaser or transferee is prohibited  
25 from possessing a firearm pursuant to section 6105 or that  
26 the potential purchaser or transferee is prohibited from  
27 purchasing or receiving a firearm because the potential  
28 purchaser or transferee's name appears on the voluntary self-  
29 exclusion list, no information received via telephone  
30 following the implementation of the instantaneous background

1 check system from a purchaser or transferee who has received  
2 a unique approval number shall be retained by the  
3 Pennsylvania State Police.

4 \* \* \*

5 § 6111.1. Pennsylvania State Police.

6 \* \* \*

7 (b) Duty of Pennsylvania State Police.--

8 (1) Upon receipt of a request for a criminal history,  
9 juvenile delinquency history, voluntary self-exclusion list  
10 and mental health record check of the potential purchaser or  
11 transferee, the Pennsylvania State Police shall immediately  
12 during the licensee's call or by return call forthwith:

13 (i) review the Pennsylvania State Police criminal  
14 history and fingerprint records to determine if the  
15 potential purchaser or transferee is prohibited from  
16 receipt or possession of a firearm under Federal or State  
17 law;

18 (ii) review the juvenile delinquency and mental  
19 health records of the Pennsylvania State Police to  
20 determine whether the potential purchaser or transferee  
21 is prohibited from receipt or possession of a firearm  
22 under Federal or State law; [and]

23 (ii.1) review the voluntary self-exclusion list to  
24 determine whether the potential purchaser or transferee's  
25 name appears on the voluntary self-exclusion list and  
26 makes the person ineligible to purchase a firearm or  
27 receive a firearm by transfer; and

28 (iii) inform the licensee making the inquiry either:

29 (A) that the potential purchase or transfer is  
30 prohibited; or

1 (B) provide the licensee with a unique approval  
2 number.

3 \* \* \*

4 (3) The Pennsylvania State Police shall fully comply,  
5 execute and enforce the directives of this section as  
6 follows:

7 (i) The instantaneous background check for firearms  
8 as defined in section 6102 (relating to definitions)  
9 shall begin on July 1, 1998.

10 (ii) The instantaneous background check for firearms  
11 that exceed the barrel lengths set forth in section 6102  
12 shall begin on the later of:

13 (A) the date of publication of the notice under  
14 section 6111(a)(2); or

15 (B) December 31, 1998.

16 (iii) The Pennsylvania State Police shall begin  
17 reviewing the voluntary self-exclusion list once the  
18 Pennsylvania State Police has promulgated regulations and  
19 established a standardized form by which a person may  
20 request placement on the voluntary self-exclusion list.  
21 If an inquiry by a licensee reveals that a potential  
22 purchaser or transferee's name appears on the voluntary  
23 self-exclusion list, the Pennsylvania State Police shall  
24 inform the licensee making the inquiry that the potential  
25 purchase or transfer is prohibited.

26 \* \* \*

27 Section 3. Title 18 is amended by adding a section to read:  
28 § 6129. Self-exclusion from purchasing a firearm.

29 (a) General rule.--The Pennsylvania State Police shall  
30 establish and maintain a list of persons self-excluded from

1 purchasing a firearm or receiving a firearm by transfer. A  
2 person may, in a form and manner to be established by the  
3 Pennsylvania State Police, request placement on the voluntary  
4 self-exclusion list. The form shall require the person to agree  
5 that, during any period of placement on the voluntary self-  
6 exclusion list, the person will not be permitted to purchase a  
7 firearm or receive a firearm by transfer.

8 (b) Period of exclusion.--The length of placement on the  
9 voluntary self-exclusion list requested by a person must be one  
10 of the following:

11 (1) One year.

12 (2) Three years.

13 (3) Five years.

14 (c) Removal from voluntary self-exclusion list.--

15 (1) No less than 20 business days before the conclusion  
16 of the self-exclusion time period, the Pennsylvania State  
17 Police shall notify the person whose name is placed on the  
18 voluntary self-exclusion list that the period of self-  
19 exclusion is about to conclude. The notice shall provide the  
20 procedure for requesting renewal of placement on the  
21 voluntary self-exclusion list in a form and manner to be  
22 established by the Pennsylvania State Police.

23 (2) (Reserved).

24 (d) Disclosure.--Notwithstanding any other law to the  
25 contrary, the Pennsylvania State Police's voluntary self-  
26 exclusion list shall not be open to public inspection.

27 (e) Promulgation of regulations.--The Pennsylvania State  
28 Police shall promulgate regulations establishing procedures as  
29 needed to implement the provisions of this section.

30 Section 4. This act shall take effect in 60 days.