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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE BILL

## No. 1626

Session of  
1987

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INTRODUCED BY DeWEESE, KASUNIC, DeLUCA, STUBAN, CESSAR,  
STEIGHNER, COY, YANDRISEVITS, DOMBROWSKI, MAYERNIK, SHOWERS,  
COLE, COWELL, BELFANTI, BUSH, BATTISTO, LEVDANSKY, VROON,  
BOOK, OLASZ, BLAUM, WOZNIAK, FISCHER, LETTERMAN, TRELLO,  
D. W. SNYDER, LLOYD, G. SNYDER, REINARD, MERRY, STEVENS,  
STAIRS, BUNT, FOSTER, LASHINGER, GODSHALL, CORRIGAN, BALDWIN,  
REBER, JACKSON, S. H. SMITH, FARGO, JOHNSON, MRKONIC,  
BELARDI, HERMAN, LaGROTTA, WILSON, PRESTON, MORRIS, MARKOSEK,  
E. Z. TAYLOR, GLADECK, DAVIES, NOYE, STABACK, FOX, FLICK,  
TIGUE, O'DONNELL AND TELEK, JUNE 30, 1987

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, JUNE 30, 1987

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, further defining "firearm"; and  
3 providing for a sportsman's firearm permit.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Section 6102 of Title 18 of the Pennsylvania  
7 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

8 § 6102. Definitions.

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

1 ["Firearm." Any pistol or revolver with a barrel less than  
2 12 inches, any shotgun with a barrel less than 24 inches, or any  
3 rifle with a barrel less than 15 inches.]

4 "County treasurer." The county treasurer or, in home rule or  
5 optional plan counties, the person whose duties encompass those  
6 of a county treasurer.

7 "Crime of violence." Any of the following crimes, or an  
8 attempt to commit any of the same, namely: murder, rape,  
9 aggravated assault, robbery, burglary, entering a building with  
10 intent to commit a crime therein, and kidnapping.

11 "Firearm." Any pistol or revolver with a barrel less than 12  
12 inches, any shotgun with a barrel less than 18 inches, or any  
13 rifle with a barrel less than 16 inches, or any pistol,  
14 revolver, rifle or shotgun with an overall length of less than  
15 26 inches. The barrel length of a firearm shall be determined by  
16 measuring from the muzzle of the barrel to the face of the  
17 closed action, bolt or cylinder, whichever is applicable.

18 Section 2. Sections 6106(c) and 6120 of Title 18 are amended  
19 to read:

20 § 6106. Firearms not to be carried without a license.

21 \* \* \*

22 (c) [Registration required in connection with field or  
23 stream exemptions.--Before any exemption shall be granted under  
24 subsection (b)(9) or (b)(10) to any person licensed to hunt,  
25 take furbearers or fish or who desires to train dogs, such  
26 person shall at the time of securing his hunting, furtaking or  
27 fishing license or any time after any such license has issued,  
28 register with the county treasurer the make of the firearm he  
29 desires to carry, and the caliber and number thereof, on a blank  
30 to be furnished by the Pennsylvania State Police. The original

1 registration shall be delivered to the person registering such  
2 firearm, and a copy thereof shall be forwarded by the county  
3 treasurer to the Commissioner of the Pennsylvania State Police.  
4 As of January 1, 1972, the county treasurer shall be entitled to  
5 collect a fee of 50 cents for each such registration of a  
6 firearm which fee shall be paid to the county. The registration  
7 of a firearm, as provided in this subsection, shall be good only  
8 for the year for which the hunting, furtaking or fishing license  
9 in connection with which it is granted, is issued.] Sportsman's  
10 firearm permit.--

11 (1) Before any exception shall be granted under  
12 paragraph (b)(9) or (10) of this section to any person 18  
13 years of age or older licensed to hunt, trap or fish or who  
14 desires to train dogs for hunting, such person shall, at the  
15 time of securing his hunting, furtaking or fishing license or  
16 any time after such license has been issued, secure a  
17 sportsman's firearm permit from the county treasurer. The  
18 sportsman's firearm permit shall be issued immediately and be  
19 valid throughout this Commonwealth for a period of five years  
20 from the date of issue for any legal firearm, when carried in  
21 conjunction with a valid hunting, furtaking or fishing  
22 license. The sportsman's firearm permit shall be in  
23 triplicate on a form to be furnished by the Pennsylvania  
24 State Police. The original permit shall be delivered to the  
25 person, and the first copy thereof, within seven days, shall  
26 be forwarded to the Commissioner of the Pennsylvania State  
27 Police by the county treasurer. The second copy shall be  
28 retained by the county treasurer for a period of two years  
29 from the date of expiration. The county treasurer shall be  
30 entitled to collect a fee of not more than \$6 for each such

1 permit issued, which shall include the cost of any official  
2 form. The Pennsylvania State Police may recover from the  
3 county treasurer the cost of any such form, but may not  
4 charge more than \$1 for each official permit form furnished  
5 to the county treasurer.

6 (2) Any person who sells or attempts to sell a  
7 sportsman's firearm permit for a fee in excess of that amount  
8 fixed under this subsection commits a summary offense.

9 \* \* \*

10 § 6120. Limitation on municipal regulation of firearms and  
11 ammunition.

12 (a) General rule.--No county, municipality or township may  
13 in any manner regulate the lawful ownership, possession,  
14 transfer or transportation of firearms, ammunition or ammunition  
15 components when carried or transported for purposes not  
16 prohibited by the laws of this Commonwealth.

17 (b) Definition.--For the purposes of this section the term  
18 "firearms" shall not include "air rifles" as defined in section  
19 6304 (relating to sale and use of air rifles).

20 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 180 days.