

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1545 Session of
2009

INTRODUCED BY PAYTON, BROWN, JOHNSON, JOSEPHS AND WATERS,
MAY 29, 2009

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, MAY 29, 2009

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, providing for a tax on the sale of
3 firearms; establishing the Violence Reduction Fund; and
4 making an editorial change.

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

7 Section 1. Section 6111.2(d) of Title 18 of the Pennsylvania
8 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

9 § 6111.2. Firearm sales surcharge.

10 * * *

11 (d) Definition.--As used in this section [only], the term
12 "firearm" shall mean any weapon which is designed to or may
13 readily be converted to expel any projectile by the action of an
14 explosion or the frame or receiver of any such weapon.

15 Section 2. Title 18 is amended by adding sections to read:

16 § 6111.6. Firearms tax.

17 (a) Imposition.--There is imposed on each sale of a firearm
18 subject to tax under Article II of the act of March 4, 1971
19 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, an

1 additional tax of 1% of the purchase price. The tax receipts
2 shall be deposited in the fund under section 6111.7 (relating to
3 Violence Reduction Fund).

4 (b) Definition.--As used in this section, the term "firearm"
5 shall mean any weapon which is designed to or may readily be
6 converted to expel any projectile by the action of an explosion
7 or the frame or receiver of any such weapon.

8 § 6111.7. Violence Reduction Fund.

9 (a) Establishment.--The Violence Reduction Fund is
10 established as a separate fund in the State Treasury.

11 (b) Sources.--The following are the sources of the fund:

12 (1) Tax receipts collected under section 6111.6(a)
13 (relating to firearms tax).

14 (2) Appropriations.

15 (3) Return on money in the fund.

16 (c) Use.--The Pennsylvania State Police shall use the fund
17 to assist local police forces with programs to reduce violence.
18 Assistance shall be made pursuant to regulations under section
19 6111.5 (relating to rules and regulations).

20 (d) Continuing appropriation.--The money in the fund shall
21 be continually appropriated into the fund. This appropriation
22 shall not lapse at the end of any fiscal year.

23 Section 3. The addition of 18 Pa.C.S. § 6111.6(a) shall
24 apply to sales at retail occurring after June 30, 2009.

25 Section 4. This act shall take effect as follows:

26 (1) The following provisions shall take effect
27 immediately:

28 (i) The addition of 18 Pa.C.S. § 6111.6.

29 (ii) Section 3 of this act.

30 (iii) This section.

1 (2) The remainder of this act shall take effect in 60
2 days.