LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

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AN ACT

Providing for child firearm safety lock mechanisms; and prescribing penalties.

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See next page for additional co-sponsors.

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Amended

2013D00810

AN ACT

- Providing for child firearm safety lock mechanisms; and 1
- prescribing penalties. 2
- The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 3
- 4 hereby enacts as follows:
- Section 1. Short title. 5
- 6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Child Firearm
- 7 Safety Lock Act.
- 8 Section 2. Purposes.
- 9 The purposes of this act are as follows:
- (1) 10 To promote the safe storage and use of handguns by
- 11 consumers.
- 12 To prevent unauthorized persons from gaining access
- 13 to or use of a handgun, including children who may not be in
- 14 possession of a handgun.
- 15 To avoid hindering industry from supplying law-
- 16 abiding citizens with firearms for all lawful purposes,
- 17 including hunting, self-defense, collecting and competitive

- or recreational shooting.
- 2 Section 3. Definitions.
- 3 As used in this act, the following words and phrases shall
- 4 have the meanings given to them in this section:
- 5 "Licensee." A licensed manufacturer, importer or dealer of
- 6 firearms.
- 7 "Locking device." Includes the following:
- 8 (1) A device that, if installed on a firearm and secured
- 9 by means of a key or a mechanically, electronically or
- 10 electromechanically operated combination lock, prevents the
- 11 firearm from being discharged without first deactivating or
- 12 removing the device.
- 13 (2) A locking mechanism incorporated into the design of
- 14 a firearm that prevents discharge of the firearm by a person
- who does not have access to the key or other device designed
- 16 to unlock the mechanism.
- 17 Section 4. Locking device for firearms.
- 18 It shall be unlawful for a licensee to sell, deliver or
- 19 transfer a firearm to a person other than another licensee
- 20 unless the transferee is provided with or purchases a locking
- 21 device for that firearm.
- 22 Section 5. Exceptions.
- 23 The following firearms are not subject to the provisions of
- 24 this act:
- 25 (1) Firearms for transfer to or possession by a law
- 26 enforcement officer employed by any Federal, State or local
- 27 government entity or rail police employed and certified by a
- rail carrier as a police officer whether on or off duty.
- 29 (2) Firearms for transfer to a person if the firearm
- qualifies as an antique firearm under 18 Pa.C.S. § 6118

- 1 (relating to antique firearms).
- 2 (3) Firearms for transfer to a person for which a safety
- device is temporarily unavailable, provided that the licensed
- 4 manufacturer, licensed importer or licensed dealer delivers
- 5 to the transferee within 14 calendar days of the original
- date of the delivery of the firearm a safety device for the
- 7 firearm.
- 8 Section 6. Penalties.
- 9 Failure to comply with the provisions of this act shall
- 10 result in:
- 11 (1) Suspension or revocation of any license issued to a
- licensee.
- 13 (2) A civil penalty for any licensee of not more than
- 14 \$10,000.
- 15 Section 7. Civil immunity.
- A person who has lawful possession and control of a firearm
- 17 and who uses a safety device with the firearm shall be entitled
- 18 to immunity from civil liability for damages resulting from the
- 19 criminal or unlawful misuse of the firearm by a third party if:
- 20 (1) the firearm was accessed by another person who did
- 21 not have the permission or authorization of the person having
- lawful possession and control of the firearm to have access
- 23 to it; and
- 24 (2) at the time access was gained by the person not so
- authorized, the firearm had been made inoperable by use of a
- 26 safety device.
- 27 Section 8. Effective date.
- 28 This act shall take effect in 60 days.