## AN ACT

Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania 1 Consolidated Statutes, in firearms and other dangerous 2 articles, further providing for definitions, for evidence of 3 intent, for persons not to possess, use, manufacture, control, sell or transfer firearms, for firearms not to be 5 carried without a license and for licenses, providing for 7 firearm eligibility license, for application for firearm eligibility license, for fee and qualification, for 8 investigations and training course and for issuance and terms 9 and further providing for sale or transfer of firearms, for 10 Pennsylvania State Police, for proof of license and exception 11 and for administrative regulations. 12 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

- 13
- 14 hereby enacts as follows:
- Section 1. Section 6102 of Title 18 of the Pennsylvania 15
- 16 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding definitions to read:
- 17 § 6102. Definitions.
- 18 Subject to additional definitions contained in subsequent
- provisions of this subchapter which are applicable to specific 19
- 20 provisions of this subchapter, the following words and phrases,
- 21 when used in this subchapter shall have, unless the context
- 22 clearly indicates otherwise, the meanings given to them in this

- 1 section:
- 2 \* \* \*
- 3 "Firearm eligibility license." A license issued by the
- 4 commissioner that authorizes a person to purchase, possess,
- 5 control or use a firearm.
- 6 \* \* \*
- 7 <u>"Qualified firearm instructor." A certified firearms</u>
- 8 <u>instructor who is recognized by the Pennsylvania State Police</u>
- 9 and has one of the following:
- 10 (1) A valid qualified firearm instructor license issued
- by the commissioner.
- 12 (2) A certificate issued by a nationally recognized
- 13 <u>firearms organization</u>.
- 14 \* \* \*
- 15 Section 2. Section 6104 of Title 18 is amended to read:
- 16 § 6104. Evidence of intent.
- In the trial of a person for committing or attempting to
- 18 commit a crime enumerated in section 6105 (relating to persons
- 19 not to possess, use, manufacture, control, sell or transfer
- 20 firearms), the fact that that person was armed with a firearm,
- 21 used or attempted to be used, and had no license to possess or
- 22 carry the same, shall be evidence of that person's intention to
- 23 commit the offense.
- Section 3. Section 6105(c) of Title 18 is amended by adding
- 25 a paragraph to read:
- 26 § 6105. Persons not to possess, use, manufacture, control, sell
- 27 or transfer firearms.
- 28 \* \* \*
- 29 (c) Other persons. -- In addition to any person who has been
- 30 convicted of any offense listed under subsection (b), the

- 1 following persons shall be subject to the prohibition of
- 2 subsection (a):
- 3 \* \* \*
- 4 (10) A person who does not possess a valid firearm
- 5 eligibility license required under section 6109.1 (relating
- 6 to firearm eligibility license).
- 7 \* \* \*
- 8 Section 4. Section 6106(a) of Title 18 is amended to read:
- 9 § 6106. Firearms not to be carried without a license.
- 10 (a) Offense defined.--
- 11 (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), any person who
- 12 carries a firearm in any vehicle or any person who carries a
- firearm concealed on or about his person, except in his place
- of abode or fixed place of business, without a valid and
- 15 lawfully issued license [under this chapter] to carry under
- 16 <u>section 6109 (relating to license to carry)</u> commits a felony
- 17 of the third degree.
- 18 (2) A person who is otherwise eligible to possess a
- 19 valid license [under this chapter] to carry under section
- 20 <u>6109</u> but carries a firearm in any vehicle or any person who
- 21 carries a firearm concealed on or about his person, except in
- 22 his place of abode or fixed place of business, without a
- valid and lawfully issued license to carry and has not
- 24 committed any other criminal violation commits a misdemeanor
- 25 of the first degree.
- 26 \* \* \*
- 27 Section 5. Section 6109 heading, (c) and (d) of Title 18 are
- 28 amended and subsection (e)(1) and (3) are amended by adding
- 29 subparagraphs to read:
- 30 § 6109. [Licenses.] License to carry.

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2 (c) Form of application and content. -- The application for a

3 license to carry a firearm shall be uniform throughout this

4 Commonwealth and shall be on a form prescribed by the

5 Pennsylvania State Police. The form may contain provisions, not

6 exceeding one page, to assure compliance with this section.

7 Issuing authorities shall use only the application form

8 prescribed by the Pennsylvania State Police. One of the

9 following reasons for obtaining a firearm license shall be set

10 forth in the application: self-defense, employment, hunting and

11 fishing, target shooting, gun collecting or another proper

12 reason. The application form shall be dated and signed by the

13 applicant and shall contain the following statement:

I am the holder of a valid firearm eligibility license. I have never been convicted of a crime that prohibits me from possessing or acquiring a firearm under Federal or State law. I am of sound mind and have never been committed to a mental institution. I hereby certify that the statements contained herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that, if I knowingly make any false statements herein, I am subject to penalties prescribed by law. I authorize the sheriff, or his designee, or, in the case of first class cities, the chief or head of the police department, or his designee, to inspect only those records or documents relevant to information required for this application. If I am issued a license and knowingly become ineligible to legally possess or acquire firearms, I will promptly notify the sheriff of the county in which I reside or, if I reside in a city of the first class, the chief of

1 police of that city.

2 (d) Sheriff to conduct investigation.—The sheriff to whom 3 the application is made shall:

- 4 (1) investigate the applicant's record of criminal conviction;
  - (2) investigate whether or not the applicant is under indictment for or has ever been convicted of a crime punishable by imprisonment exceeding one year;
  - (3) investigate whether the applicant's character and reputation are such that the applicant will not be likely to act in a manner dangerous to public safety;
    - (4) investigate whether the applicant would be precluded from receiving a license under subsection (e)(1) or section 6105(h) (relating to persons not to possess, use, manufacture, control, sell or transfer firearms); [and]
  - (5) conduct a criminal background, juvenile delinquency and mental health check following the procedures set forth in section 6111 (relating to sale or transfer of firearms), receive a unique approval number for that inquiry and record the date and number on the application[.]; and
  - (6) confirm with the Pennsylvania State Police that the applicant holds a valid firearm eligibility license.
  - (e) Issuance of license.--
    - (1) A license to carry a firearm shall be for the purpose of carrying a firearm concealed on or about one's person or in a vehicle and shall be issued if, after an investigation not to exceed 45 days, it appears that the applicant is an individual concerning whom no good cause exists to deny the license. A license shall not be issued to any of the following:

2	(xv) An individual who does not possess a valid
3	firearm eligibility license under section 6109.1
4	(relating to firearm eligibility license).
5	(3) The license to carry a firearm shall be designed to
6	be uniform throughout this Commonwealth and shall be in a
7	form prescribed by the Pennsylvania State Police. The license
8	shall bear the following:
9	* * *
10	(vii) The number of the licensee's firearm
11	eligibility license.
12	* * *
13	Section 6. Title 18 is amended by adding sections to read:
14	§ 6109.1. Firearm eligibility license.
15	(a) Required Except as provided in subsection (b), a
16	firearm eliqibility license shall be required to own or possess
17	a firearm within this Commonwealth.
18	(b) Exception Subsection (a) may not apply to any of the
19	<pre>following:</pre>
20	(1) A licensed firearms manufacturer.
21	(2) A dealer licensed under section 6113 (relating to
22	licensing of dealers).
23	(3) A law enforcement officer or person who is retired
24	in good standing from service with a law enforcement agency
25	of the United States, this Commonwealth or a local law
26	enforcement agency of this Commonwealth.
27	(4) A member or retired member of the armed forces of
28	the United States or the Pennsylvania National Guard.
29	(5) A person purchasing, owning, possessing or receiving
30	an antique firearm as defined in section 6118 (relating to

- 1 <u>antique firearms</u>) or reproductions or replicas of firearms if
- 2 <u>the antique firearm, reproduction or replica is not suitable</u>
- 3 <u>for use.</u>
- 4 § 6109.2. Application for firearm eligibility license.
- 5 (a) Place of application. -- An individual may apply to an
- 6 issuing authority for a firearm eligibility license. If the
- 7 <u>applicant is a resident of this Commonwealth, the applicant must</u>
- 8 apply with the sheriff of the county in which the applicant
- 9 <u>resides. If the applicant lives in a city of the first class,</u>
- 10 the applicant must apply with the chief of police of the city.
- 11 (b) Form of application and content. -- The application for a
- 12 firearm eligibility license shall be uniform across this
- 13 Commonwealth and shall be on a form prescribed by the
- 14 Pennsylvania State Police. Each application shall be signed and
- 15 dated by the applicant. The form may contain provisions, not
- 16 exceeding one page, to assure compliance with this section.
- 17 <u>Issuing authorities shall</u> use only the application form
- 18 prescribed by the Pennsylvania State Police. The application
- 19 shall contain the following statement:
- 20 <u>I have never been convicted of a crime that prohibits me</u>
- 21 <u>from possessing or acquiring a firearm under Federal or</u>
- 22 <u>State law. I am of sound mind and have never been</u>
- 23 <u>committed to a mental institution. I hereby certify that</u>
- 24 the statements contained herein are true and correct to
- 25 the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that,
- 26 <u>if I knowingly make any false statement herein, I am</u>
- 27 subject to penalties prescribed by law. I authorize the
- 28 <u>sheriff or the sheriff's designee, or the chief of the</u>
- 29 police department or the chief's designee, to inspect
- 30 <u>only those records or documents relevant to the</u>

Т	information required for this application. If I am issued
2	a license and knowingly become ineligible to legally
3	possess or acquire firearms, I will promptly notify the
4	sheriff of the county in which I reside or, if I reside
5	in a city of the first class, the chief of police of that
6	city.
7	§ 6109.3. Fee and qualification.
8	(a) Firearm eligibility license fee
9	(1) The fees for a firearm eliqibility license are as
10	follows:
11	(i) Fifty dollars for the original license.
12	(ii) Twenty-five dollars for a license renewal which
13	includes the following:
14	(A) A renewal processing fee of \$1.50.
15	(B) An administrative fee of \$5 under section
16	14(2) of the act of July 6, 1984 (P.L.614, No.127),
17	known as the Sheriff Fee Act.
18	(C) An administrative fee of \$2 for the costs of
19	completing the background investigation under section
20	6109.2(b) (relating to application for firearm
21	eligibility license). This fee shall be deposited
22	into the Firearms Records Check Fund under section
23	6111.3 (relating to Firearm Records Check fund).
24	(2) All license fees remaining after the deduction under
25	paragraph (1) shall be deposited in the General Fund.
26	(3) No fee other than under this section or the Sheriff
27	Fee Act may be assessed by the issuing authority for the cost
28	of a background check performed in the process of issuing a
29	firearm eligibility license.
30	(b) Oualifications for license The issuing authority shall

	issue a lifearm eligibility license to an applicant who meets
2	the following criteria:
3	(1) Be at least 21 years of age.
4	(2) Be a resident of this Commonwealth.
5	(3) Within three years prior to the submission of the
6	application, demonstrate satisfactory completion of a
7	certified firearms training course approved by the
8	commissioner that includes all the following:
9	(i) A minimum of 16 hours of instruction by a
10	qualified firearm instructor.
11	(ii) Classroom instruction on all the following:
12	(A) Commonwealth firearm law.
13	(B) Home firearm safety.
14	(C) Firearm mechanisms and operations.
15	(iii) A firearms orientation component that
16	demonstrates the person's safe operation, handling and
17	use of a firearm.
18	(4) Is not prohibited by Federal or State law from
19	purchasing or possessing a firearm. For purposes of
20	determining this, the following shall apply:
21	(i) The applicant shall provide a full set of
22	fingerprints to the Pennsylvania State Police.
23	(ii) The Pennsylvania State Police shall submit the
24	fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation to
25	verify the identity of the applicant and obtain a current
26	record of criminal arrests and convictions.
27	§ 6109.4. Investigations and training course.
28	(a) Firearms training course The commissioner has the
29	following powers and duties:
30	(1) To promulgate quidelines setting forth the

1	requirements to become a qualified firearm instructor in this
2	Commonwealth.
3	(2) To designate any program as a certified firearm
4	training course if the program meets the minimum requirements
5	established by the commissioner.
6	(b) Waiver of training course An applicant for a firearm
7	eligibility license is not required to complete a firearm safety
8	training course under subsection (a) if the applicant is any of
9	the following:
10	(1) A qualified firearm instructor.
11	(2) A member or honorably discharged member of the armed
12	forces of the United States or the National Guard.
13	(3) A police officer as defined in 53 Pa.C.S. § 2162
L 4	(relating to definitions) who is certified under 53 Pa.C.S.
15	Ch. 21 Subch. D (relating to municipal police education and
16	training). The term includes a school police officer
17	appointed under section 778 of the act of March 10, 1949
18	(P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949.
19	(4) An active or retired Federal or State law
20	enforcement officer.
21	(5) Certified under 61 Pa.C.S. Ch. 63 (relating to
22	county probation officers' firearm education and training).
23	(6) A Commonwealth or county corrections officer or
24	probation or parole agent.
25	(7) A county sheriff, deputy sheriff or constable.
26	(8) The lawful owner of a firearm prior to the effective
27	date of this subsection.
28	(c) Conduct of investigation The issuing authority to whom
29	the application is made shall:
30	(1) Investigate the applicant's record of criminal

- 1 <u>conviction</u>.
- 2 (2) Review the applicant's completed Federal criminal
- 3 <u>history check.</u>
- 4 (3) Investigate whether the applicant would be precluded
- from or is prohibited from possessing, using, controlling,
- 6 <u>selling, purchasing, transferring or manufacturing a firearm</u>
- 7 under section 6105 (relating to persons not to possess, use,
- 8 manufacture, control, sell or transfer firearms).
- 9 (4) Conduct a criminal background, juvenile delinquency
- 10 and mental health check following the procedures set forth in
- 11 section 6111 (relating to sale or transfer of firearms),
- receive a unique approval number for that inquiry and record
- the date and number on the application.
- 14 (d) Notice to issuing authority. -- Notwithstanding any other
- 15 law to the contrary, a court, mental health review officer or
- 16 county mental health and mental retardation administrator shall
- 17 notify the issuing authority of the county or city in which an
- 18 individual holds a firearm eligibility license on a form
- 19 prescribed by the Pennsylvania State Police within seven days of
- 20 the individual's conviction or adjudication or upon
- 21 determination of any of the following:
- 22 (1) A crime specified in section 6105(a) or (b).
- 23 (2) A crime punishable by imprisonment exceeding one
- 24 year.
- 25 (3) Conduct that meets the criteria of section 6105(c)
- 26 (1), (2), (3), (5), (6) or (9).
- 27 <u>(4) Incompetency.</u>
- 28 (5) Involuntary commitment to a mental institution for
- inpatient care and treatment under the act of July 9, 1976
- 30 (P.L.817, No.143), known as the Mental Health Procedures Act.

Т	(6) Involuntary treatment for an individual meeting the
2	criteria of section 6105(c)(4).
3	(e) Immunity An issuing authority which complies in good
4	faith with this section shall be immune from liability resulting
5	or arising from the action of misconduct with a firearm
6	committed by an individual who was issued a firearm eligibility
7	<u>license.</u>
8	(f) Definition As used in this section, the term "issuing
9	authority" shall mean a county sheriff or chief of police of a
10	city of the first class.
11	§ 6109.5. Issuance and terms.
12	(a) Issuance of license
13	(1) If the applicant meets the requirements of this
14	section, a firearm eligibility license shall be issued. A
15	license shall not be issued to an individual who is
16	prohibited from possessing, using, controlling, selling,
۱7	purchasing, transferring or manufacturing a firearm under
18	section 6105 (relating to persons not to possess, use,
19	manufacture, control, sell or transfer firearms) or under any
20	other Federal or State law.
21	(2) The firearm eligibility license shall be designed to
22	be uniform throughout this Commonwealth and shall be in a
23	form prescribed by the Pennsylvania State Police. The license
24	shall bear the following:
25	(i) The name, address, date of birth, race, sex,
26	citizenship, height, weight, color of hair, color of eyes
27	and signature of the licensee.
28	(ii) The signature of the issuing authority.
29	(iii) A license number of which the first two
30	numbers shall be a county location code. The remaining

1	numbers shall be issued in numerical sequence.
2	(iv) The period of validation.
3	(3) The firearm eligibility license shall include a
4	photograph of the licensee. The photograph shall be in a form
5	compatible with the Commonwealth Photo Imaging Network.
6	(4) The original firearm eligibility license shall be
7	issued to the applicant. The first copy of the license shall
8	be forwarded to the Pennsylvania State Police within seven
9	days of the date of issuance. The second copy shall be
10	retained by the issuing authority for a period of seven
11	years. Except under a court order, both copies and the
12	application shall, at the end of the seven-year period, be
13	destroyed unless the license has been renewed.
14	(b) Grant or denial of license Upon receipt of an
15	application for a firearm eligibility license, the issuing
16	authority shall issue or refuse to issue within 30 days a
17	license on the basis of the investigation under subsection (d)
18	and the accuracy of the information contained in the
19	application. If the issuing authority refuses to issue a
20	license, the issuing authority shall notify the applicant in
21	writing of the refusal and the specific reason. The notice shall
22	be sent by certified mail to the applicant at the address
23	included in the application.
24	(c) Term of license
25	(1) A firearm eligibility license issued under
26	subsection (e) shall be valid throughout this Commonwealth
27	for a period of five years unless extended under paragraph
28	(3) or revoked.
29	(2) At least 60 days prior to the expiration of each
30	license, the issuing authority shall send to the licensee an

1	application for renewal of the license. Failure to receive a
2	renewal application shall not relieve a licensee from the
3	responsibility to renew the license.
4	(3) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) or any other
5	provisions of law to the contrary, a firearm eligibility
6	license that is held by a member of the United States Armed
7	Forces or the Pennsylvania National Guard on Federal active
8	duty and deployed overseas that is scheduled to expire during
9	the period of deployment shall be extended until 90 days
10	after the end of the deployment.
11	(4) Possession of a firearm eligibility license,
12	together with a copy of the person's military orders showing
13	the dates of the overseas deployment, including the date that
14	the overseas deployment ends, shall constitute a defense to
15	any charge filed under this section during the extension
16	period.
17	(d) Revocation
18	(1) A firearm eligibility license may be revoked by the
19	issuing authority for any reason under section 6105(b) or (c)
20	if the violation occurs during the term of the license. The
21	revocation shall be in accordance with the following:
22	(i) Notice of revocation shall:
23	(A) Be in writing and shall state the specific
24	reason for revocation.
25	(B) Be sent by certified mail to the individual.
26	(C) Be provided to the Pennsylvania State Police
27	by electronic means, including e-mail or facsimile
28	transmission.
29	(ii) An individual who has had a license revoked may
30	appeal to the court of common pleas for the judicial

- district in which the individual resides.
- 2 (2) Anyone who violates this subsection commits a
- 3 <u>summary\_offense</u>.
- 4 (e) Immunity. -- An issuing authority which complies in good
- 5 <u>faith with this section shall be immune from liability resulting</u>
- 6 or arising from the action of misconduct with a firearm
- 7 committed by an individual who was issued a firearm eligibility
- 8 license.
- 9 (f) Reciprocity.--The Attorney General shall:
- 10 (1) Have the power and duty to enter into reciprocity
- 11 agreements with other states providing for the mutual
- 12 recognition of a firearm eligibility license issued by the
- 13 Commonwealth and a firearm eligibility license or permit
- issued by another state.
- 15 (2) Have the power to negotiate reciprocity agreements
- 16 and grant recognition to a firearm eligibility license or
- 17 permit issued by another state.
- 18 (3) Report to the General Assembly within 180 days of
- 19 <u>the effective date of this paragraph and annually thereafter</u>
- 20 on the agreements which have been made under this section.
- 21 (g) Definition. -- As used in this section, the term "issuing
- 22 <u>authority" means a county sheriff or chief of police of a city</u>
- 23 of the first class.
- 24 Section 7. Section 6111(b)(1.1)(iii) and (q)(4)(iii) of
- 25 Title 18 are amended and subsection (b) is amended by adding a
- 26 paragraph to read:
- 27 § 6111. Sale or transfer of firearms.
- 28 \* \* \*
- 29 (b) Duty of seller.--No licensed importer, licensed
- 30 manufacturer or licensed dealer shall sell or deliver any

1 firearm to another person, other than a licensed importer, licensed manufacturer, licensed dealer or licensed collector, 2 until the conditions of subsection (a) have been satisfied and 3 until he has: 4 5 (1.1) On the date of publication in the Pennsylvania б 7 Bulletin of a notice by the Pennsylvania State Police that the instantaneous records check has been implemented, all of 8 9 the following shall apply: 10 (iii) For purposes of conducting the criminal 11 history, juvenile delinquency and mental health records 12 13 background check which shall be completed within ten days of receipt of the information from the dealer, the 14 15 application/record of sale shall include the name, address, birthdate, gender, race, physical description 16 [and], Social Security number of the purchaser or 17 18 transferee, the purchaser or transferee's firearm eliqibility license number and the date of application. 19 \* \* \* 20 (2.1) Inspected the firearm eliqibility license of the 21 22 potential purchaser or transferee. \* \* \* 23 (g) Penalties. --24 \* \* \* 25 (4) Any person, purchaser or transferee commits a felony 26 of the third degree if, in connection with the purchase, 27 delivery or transfer of a firearm under this chapter, he 28 knowingly and intentionally: 29 30

1	(iii) willfully furnishes or exhibits any false
2	identification, including a false firearm eligibility
3	<u>license</u> , intended or likely to deceive the seller,
4	licensed dealer or licensed manufacturer.
5	* * *
6	Section 8. Section 6111.1(b)(2) and (3) and (e)(1) of Title
7	18 are amended and subsections (b) and (i) are amended by adding
8	paragraphs to read:
9	§ 6111.1. Pennsylvania State Police.
10	* * *
11	(b) Duty of Pennsylvania State Police
12	* * *
13	(1.1) Upon receipt of an application for a firearm
14	eligibility license under section 6109.1 (relating to firearm
15	eligibility license), the Pennsylvania State Police shall
10	
16	<pre>immediately:</pre>
16	<pre>immediately:</pre>
16 17	immediately:  (i) Review the Pennsylvania State Police criminal
16 17 18	<pre>immediately:      (i) Review the Pennsylvania State Police criminal      history and fingerprint records to determine whether the</pre>
16 17 18 19	<pre>immediately:</pre>
16 17 18 19 20	<pre>immediately:</pre>
16 17 18 19 20 21	immediately: (i) Review the Pennsylvania State Police criminal history and fingerprint records to determine whether the applicant is prohibited from receipt or possession of a firearm under Federal or State law. (ii) Review the juvenile delinquency and mental
16 17 18 19 20 21 22	<pre>immediately:     (i) Review the Pennsylvania State Police criminal     history and fingerprint records to determine whether the     applicant is prohibited from receipt or possession of a     firearm under Federal or State law.     (ii) Review the juvenile delinquency and mental     health records of the Pennsylvania State Police to</pre>
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	immediately:  (i) Review the Pennsylvania State Police criminal history and fingerprint records to determine whether the applicant is prohibited from receipt or possession of a firearm under Federal or State law.  (ii) Review the juvenile delinquency and mental health records of the Pennsylvania State Police to determine whether the applicant is prohibited from
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	<pre>immediately:     (i) Review the Pennsylvania State Police criminal     history and fingerprint records to determine whether the     applicant is prohibited from receipt or possession of a     firearm under Federal or State law.     (ii) Review the juvenile delinquency and mental     health records of the Pennsylvania State Police to     determine whether the applicant is prohibited from     receipt or possession of a firearm under Federal or State</pre>
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	immediately:  (i) Review the Pennsylvania State Police criminal history and fingerprint records to determine whether the applicant is prohibited from receipt or possession of a firearm under Federal or State law.  (ii) Review the juvenile delinquency and mental health records of the Pennsylvania State Police to determine whether the applicant is prohibited from receipt or possession of a firearm under Federal or State law.
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26	immediately:  (i) Review the Pennsylvania State Police criminal history and fingerprint records to determine whether the applicant is prohibited from receipt or possession of a firearm under Federal or State law.  (ii) Review the juvenile delinquency and mental health records of the Pennsylvania State Police to determine whether the applicant is prohibited from receipt or possession of a firearm under Federal or State law.  (iii) Inform the issuing authority of one of the
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27	immediately:  (i) Review the Pennsylvania State Police criminal history and fingerprint records to determine whether the applicant is prohibited from receipt or possession of a firearm under Federal or State law.  (ii) Review the juvenile delinquency and mental health records of the Pennsylvania State Police to determine whether the applicant is prohibited from receipt or possession of a firearm under Federal or State law.  (iii) Inform the issuing authority of one of the following:

1	eligibility license. If the Pennsylvania State Police
2	determine that the individual is eligible, the
3	Pennsylvania State Police shall provide the issuing
4	authority with the individual's firearm eligibility
5	license.
6	(2) In the event of electronic failure, scheduled
7	computer downtime or similar event beyond the control of the
8	Pennsylvania State Police, the Pennsylvania State Police
9	shall immediately notify the requesting licensee under
10	paragraph (1) or the applicant under paragraph (1.1) of the
11	reason for and estimated length of the delay. If the failure
12	or event lasts for a period exceeding 48 hours, the dealer
13	shall not be subject to any penalty for completing a
14	transaction absent the completion of an instantaneous records
15	check for the remainder of the failure or similar event, but
16	the dealer shall obtain a completed application/record of
17	sale following the provisions of section $6111(b)(1)$ and $(1.1)$
18	(relating to sale or transfer of firearms) as if an
19	instantaneous records check has not been established for any
20	sale or transfer of a firearm for the purpose of a subsequent
21	background check.
22	(3) The Pennsylvania State Police shall fully comply,
23	execute and enforce the directives of this section as
24	follows:
25	(i) The instantaneous background check for firearms
26	as defined in section 6102 (relating to definitions)
27	shall begin on July 1, 1998.

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

1	(A) the date of publication of the notice under
2	section 6111(a)(2); or
3	(B) December 31, 1998.
4	(iii) The instantaneous background check for a
5	firearm eligibility license shall take effect on the
6	effective date of this subparagraph.
7	* * *
8	(e) Challenge to records
9	(1) Any person who is denied a firearm eligibility
10	license or is denied the right to receive, sell, transfer,
11	possess, carry, manufacture or purchase a firearm as a result
12	of the procedures established by this section may challenge
13	the accuracy of that person's criminal history, juvenile
14	delinquency history or mental health record pursuant to a
15	denial by the instantaneous records check by submitting a
16	challenge to the Pennsylvania State Police within 30 days
17	from the date of the denial.
18	* * *
19	(i) ReportsThe Pennsylvania State Police shall annually
20	compile and report to the General Assembly, on or before
21	December 31, the following information for the previous year:
22	* * *
23	(1.1) number of firearm eligibility license applications
24	submitted, number of applications denied, number of
25	challenges of the denials and number of reversals of initial
26	<pre>denials;</pre>
27	* * *
28	Section 9. Sections 6122(a) and 6124 of Title 18 are amended
29	to read:
30	§ 6122. Proof of license and exception.

- 1 (a) General rule. -- When carrying a firearm concealed on or
- 2 about one's person or in a vehicle, an individual licensed to
- 3 carry a firearm shall, upon lawful demand of a law enforcement
- 4 officer, produce the [license] individual's firearm eligibility
- 5 license and license to carry for inspection. Failure to produce
- 6 such license either at the time of arrest or at the preliminary
- 7 hearing shall create a rebuttable presumption of nonlicensure.
- 8 \* \* \*
- 9 § 6124. Administrative regulations.
- 10 The commissioner may establish form specifications and
- 11 regulations, consistent with [section] <u>sections</u> 6109(c)
- 12 (relating to licenses), 6109.1 (relating to firearm eligibility
- 13 license) and 6109.2 (relating to application for firearm
- 14 eligibility license), with respect to uniform forms control,
- 15 including the following:
- 16 (1) License to carry firearms.
- 17 (2) Firearm registration.
- 18 (3) Dealer's license.
- 19 (4) Application for purchase of a firearm.
- 20 (5) Record of sale of firearms.
- 21 (6) Firearm eligibility license.
- 22 Section 10. This act shall take effect in 60 days.