

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 617

Session of  
1981

INTRODUCED BY PITTS, LAUGHLIN, KOLTER, GRAY, NOYE, HASAY, HAYES,  
GEORGE, DeVERTER, MERRY, PHILLIPS, GAMBLE AND PUNT,  
FEBRUARY 18, 1981

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND COMMERCE,  
FEBRUARY 18, 1981

AN ACT

1 Providing for the storage, handling and use of certain  
2 explosives and imposing penalties.

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

5 Section 1. Commercially manufactured black powder in  
6 quantities not to exceed 50 pounds, percussion caps, safety and  
7 pyrotechnic fuses, quills, quick and slow matches, and friction  
8 primers, intended to be used solely for sporting, recreational,  
9 cultured purposes in antique firearms or antique devices as  
10 defined in section 921 (a)(16) of Title 18 of the United States  
11 Code shall be exempt from regulation by the Department of  
12 Environmental Resources.

13 Section 2. Not more than 50 pounds of black powder shall be  
14 permitted in a commercial establishment. It shall be stored in a  
15 Class C magazine which shall be mounted on wheels for easy  
16 removal in case of fire. The magazine shall be located in close  
17 proximity to an outside door.

1       Section 3. Smokeless powder, primers used for reloading  
2 rifle or pistol cartridges, shot shells, percussion caps and  
3 smokeless propellants intended for personal use shall be exempt  
4 from regulation by the Department of Environmental Resources.

5       Section 4. (a) The quantity and distance for unbarricaded  
6 magazines for the storage of black powder in quantities not to  
7 exceed 1,000 pounds shall be in accordance with Federal  
8 regulations.

9       (b) The Department of Environmental Resources may adopt  
10 regulations with respect to the quantity and distance for  
11 unbarricaded magazines for the storage of black powder in  
12 quantities of 1,000 pounds or more.

13       Section 5. Any person violating the provisions of this act  
14 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.

15       Section 6. This act shall take effect in 60 days.