

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 277 Session of  
2007

INTRODUCED BY BISHOP, BLACKWELL, CURRY, DONATUCCI, FRANKEL,  
JAMES, JOSEPHS, MELIO, PARKER, SOLOBAY, WILLIAMS, YOUNGBLOOD  
AND MYERS, FEBRUARY 6, 2007

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, FEBRUARY 6, 2007

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, providing for trigger locks and for  
3 handgun identification requirements.

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

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

8 § 6127. Trigger locks required.

9 (a) General rule.--Every handgun except an antique handgun  
10 shall be equipped with a trigger lock.

11 (b) Definition.--As used in this section, the term "trigger  
12 lock" means a metallic device operated with a key or combination  
13 lock which prevents a firearm from being discharged while the  
14 device is attached to the firearm. The term includes a device  
15 which obstructs the barrel or cylinder of the firearm and a  
16 device which immobilizes the trigger.

17 § 6128. Ballistics identifier required.

18 (a) General rule.--No person registered or licensed as a

manufacturer, wholesale dealer of firearms or retail dealer of firearms may transport into this Commonwealth, sell, expose for sale, possess with the intent of selling, assign or otherwise transfer a handgun other than an antique handgun unless a ballistics identifier for that handgun has been obtained and made part of a qualified database.

(b) Penalties.--A person that violates the provisions of subsection (a) shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$7,500 nor more than \$15,000 and a fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$1,000 for each handgun.

(c) Regulations.--The Attorney General shall promulgate regulations to effectuate the purposes of this section.

(d) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection:

"Ballistics identifier." A digitized or electronic image of a bullet and shell casing fired by a handgun which:

(1) clearly shows the distinctive firing pin, ejection, extraction and land marks for that particular handgun; and

(2) can be utilized, through comparative computer analysis, for investigative and prosecutorial purposes by law enforcement agencies.

"Qualified database." A database established and maintained by a Federal or State law enforcement agency which:

(1) contains individual handgun information, such as the handgun's make, model, caliber, manufacturer's serial number and ballistics identifier; and

(2) is made available to, and may be utilized by, law enforcement agencies in this Commonwealth for investigative and prosecutorial purposes.

1       Section 2.   This act shall take effect in 60 days.