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# STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

### IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### **JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024**

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### AN ACT

#### RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS

Introduced By: Senators McKenney, Euer, DiMario, Kallman, Bissaillon, and Valverde

<u>Date Introduced:</u> January 24, 2024

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 11-47 of the General Laws entitled "Weapons" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

## 11-47-65. Multiple firearm purchases prohibited.

4 (a) Except as provided pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, no person shall purchase
5 or take possession of more than one firearm in any thirty (30) day period. For purposes of this
6 section, "firearm" means any "pistol", "rifle" or "shotgun" as defined in § 11-47-2.

(b) The provisions of subsection (a) of this section shall not apply to federally licensed firearm dealers; governmental entities; any issuance of weapons by a governmental entity to officers, agents or personnel of the governmental entity; law enforcement officers exempt pursuant to the provisions of §§ 11-47-9 and 11-47-9.1; licensed private security companies for use by registered armed security guards; any transfer pursuant to a court order; an estate representative or heir in accordance with an authorization issued or ordered by a probate court; a temporary rental or use of a firearm at a licensed shooting range or club; a participant in a training, firearm safety or shooting course of instruction during the period of instruction; or a transfer of a weapon defined as a curio or relic pursuant to 27 C.F.R. § 478.11 to a licensed curio or relic collector.

(c) Any person violating the provisions of subsection (a) of this section upon conviction for a first offense shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and may be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not more than one year or fined five hundred dollars (\$500), or both. Any person convicted of a second or subsequent offense shall be guilty of a felony offense and may be sentenced to a period

- 1 of confinement not to exceed three (3) years or fined three thousand dollars (\$3,000), or both.
- 2 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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## **EXPLANATION**

# BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

## AN ACT

## RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS

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This act would prohibit the purchase of more than one firearm in a thirty (30) day period.

Exemptions are made for law enforcement, inheritance, participation in courses of instruction, temporary rentals at gun ranges and licensed collectors.

This act would take effect upon passage.

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