# HOUSE . . . . . . . . . . . . . No. 3253

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

### David Paul Linsky

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act to reduce gun violence and to protect the citizens of the Commonwealth.

#### PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
David Paul Linsky	5th Middlesex
Lori A. Ehrlich	8th Essex
William N. Brownsberger	Second Suffolk and Middlesex
Frank I. Smizik	15th Norfolk
Sonia Chang-Diaz	Second Suffolk
Ellen Story	3rd Hampshire
Tricia Farley-Bouvier	3rd Berkshire
Jonathan Hecht	29th Middlesex
Ruth B. Balser	12th Middlesex
Denise Andrews	2nd Franklin
Denise Provost	27th Middlesex
Kay Khan	11th Middlesex
Martha M. Walz	8th Suffolk
Thomas P. Conroy	13th Middlesex
Marcos A. Devers	16th Essex
Alice Hanlon Peisch	14th Norfolk
John D. Keenan	7th Essex
Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.	34th Middlesex

David M. Rogers	24th Middlesex
Marjorie C. Decker	25th Middlesex
John J. Mahoney	13th Worcester
Cory Atkins	14th Middlesex
Katherine M. Clark	Fifth Middlesex
Byron Rushing	9th Suffolk

FILED ON: 1/18/2013

## HOUSE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . No. 3253

By Mr. Linsky of Natick, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3253) of David Paul Linsky and others relative to further regulating the licensing, sale and possession of firearms and increasing the tax on the sale of firearms and ammunition. Public Safety and Homeland Security.

### The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

An Act to reduce gun violence and to protect the citizens of the Commonwealth.

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Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1: Section 131 of the Chapter 140 of the General Laws is hereby repealed 2 and replaced with the following:

All licenses to carry firearms shall be designated Class A or Class B, and the issuance and possession of any such license shall be subject to the following conditions and restrictions:

(a) A Class A license shall entitle a holder thereof to purchase, rent, lease, borrow, possess and carry: (i) firearms, including ammunition therefor, for all lawful purposes, subject to such restrictions relative to the possession, use or carrying of firearms as the licensing authority deems proper; and (ii) non-large capacity rifles and shotguns, including ammunition therefor, for all lawful purposes; provided, however, that the licensing authority may impose such restrictions relative to the possession, use or carrying of firearms, rifles and shotguns as it deems proper. A violation of a restriction imposed by the licensing authority under the provisions of this paragraph shall be cause for suspension or revocation and shall, unless otherwise provided, be punished by a fine of not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$10,000; provided, however, that the provisions of section 10 of chapter 269 shall not apply to such violation.

The colonel of state police may, after an investigation, grant a Class A license to a club or facility with an on-site shooting range or gallery, which club is incorporated under the laws of the commonwealth for the possession, storage and use of assault weapons, large capacity weapons, ammunition therefor and large capacity feeding devices for use with such weapons on the premises of such club; provided, however, that not less than one shareholder of such club shall be qualified and suitable to be issued such license; and provided further, that such large

capacity weapons and ammunition feeding devices may be used under such Class A club license only by such members that possess a valid firearm identification card issued under section 129B or a valid Class A or Class B license to carry firearms, or by such other persons that the club permits while under the direct supervision of a certified firearms safety instructor or club member who, in the case of a large capacity firearm, possesses a valid Class A license to carry firearms or, in the case of a large capacity rifle or shotgun, possesses a valid Class A or Class B license to carry firearms. Such club shall not permit shooting at targets that depict human figures, human effigies, human silhouettes or any human images thereof, except by public safety personnel performing in line with their official duties.

30 No large capacity weapon or large capacity feeding device shall be removed from the premises except for the purposes of: (i) transferring such firearm or feeding device to a licensed 31 dealer; (ii) transporting such firearm or feeding device to a licensed gunsmith for repair; (iii) target, trap or skeet shooting on the premises of another club incorporated under the laws of the commonwealth and for transporting thereto; (iv) attending an exhibition or educational project or event that is sponsored by, conducted under the supervision of or approved by a public law enforcement agency or a nationally or state recognized entity that promotes proficiency in or education about semiautomatic weapons and for transporting thereto and therefrom; or (v) surrendering such firearm or feeding device under the provisions of section 129D. Any large capacity weapon or large capacity feeding device kept on the premises of a lawfully incorporated 40 shooting club shall, when not in use, be secured in a locked container, and shall be unloaded 41 during any lawful transport. The clerk or other corporate officer of such club shall annually file a 42 report with the colonel of state police and the commissioner of the department of criminal justice 43 information services listing all large capacity weapons and large capacity feeding devices owned or possessed under such license. The colonel of state police or his designee, shall have the right to inspect all firearms owned or possessed by such club upon request during regular business hours and said colonel may revoke or suspend a club license for a violation of any provision of 46 this chapter or chapter 269 relative to the ownership, use or possession of large capacity weapons 47 or large capacity feeding devices. 48

49 (b) A Class B license shall entitle a holder thereof to purchase, rent, lease, borrow, 50 possess and carry: (i) non-large capacity firearms and feeding devices and ammunition therefor, for all lawful purposes, subject to such restrictions relative to the possession, use or carrying of 52 such firearm as the licensing authority deems proper; provided, however, that a Class B license shall not entitle the holder thereof to carry or possess a loaded firearm in a concealed manner in 54 any public way or place; and provided further, that a Class B license shall not entitle the holder thereof to possess a large capacity firearm, except under a Class A club license issued under this section or under the direct supervision of a holder of a valid Class A license at an incorporated 57 shooting club or licensed shooting range; and (ii) rifles and shotguns, including ammunition therefor, for all lawful purposes; provided, however, that the licensing authority may impose such restrictions relative to the possession, use or carrying of firearms, rifles and shotguns as he

deems proper. A violation of a restriction provided under this paragraph, or a restriction imposed by the licensing authority under the provisions of this paragraph, shall be cause for suspension or revocation and shall, unless otherwise provided, be punished by a fine of not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$10,000; provided, however, that the provisions of section 10 of chapter 269 shall not apply to such violation.

A Class B license shall not be a valid license for the purpose of complying with any provision under this chapter governing the possession, purchase, sale, lease, rental or transfer of any weapon or ammunition feeding device if such weapon is a large capacity firearm or if such ammunition feeding device is a large capacity feeding device for use with a large capacity firearm, both as defined in section 121.

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- (c) Either a Class A or Class B license shall be valid for the purpose of owning, possessing, purchasing and transferring non-large capacity rifles and shotguns, and for purchasing and possessing chemical mace, pepper spray or other similarly propelled liquid, gas or powder designed to temporarily incapacitate, consistent with the entitlements conferred by a firearm identification card issued under section 129B.
- (d) Any person residing or having a place of business within the jurisdiction of the licensing authority or any law enforcement officer employed by the licensing authority or any person residing in an area of exclusive federal jurisdiction located within a city or town may submit to such licensing authority or the colonel of state police, an application for a Class A or Class B license to carry firearms, or renewal of the same, which such licensing authority or said colonel may issue if it appears that the applicant is a suitable person to be issued such license, and that the applicant has good reason to fear injury to his person or property, or for any other reason, including the carrying of firearms for use in sport or target practice only, subject to such restrictions expressed or authorized under this section, unless the applicant:
- 84 (i) has ever as an adult in a court of the commonwealth or in any other state or federal jurisdiction been convicted, or in a court of the commonwealth or in any other state or federal 85 jurisdiction been adjudicated a youthful offender or delinquent child, both as defined in section 87 52 of chapter 119, for the commission of: (a) a felony; (b) a misdemeanor punishable by 88 imprisonment for more than two years; (c) a violent crime as defined in section 121; (d) a 89 violation of any law regulating the use, possession, ownership, transfer, purchase, sale, lease, 90 rental, receipt or transportation of weapons or ammunition for which a term of imprisonment of 91 one year or more may be imposed; or (e) a violation of any law regulating the use, possession or 92 sale of controlled substances, as defined in section 1 of chapter 94C including, but not limited to, 93 a violation under said chapter 94C; or (f) knowingly filing a application for a firearms 94 identification card of license to carry firearms containing false information; provided, however, that except for the commission of a violent crime or a crime involving the trafficking of 95 96 controlled substances or firearms, if the applicant has been so convicted or adjudicated or 97 released from confinement, probation or parole supervision for such conviction or adjudication,

98 whichever is last occurring, not less than five years immediately preceding such application, 99 such applicant's right or ability to possess a non-large capacity rifle or shotgun shall be deemed 100 restored in the commonwealth with respect to such conviction or adjudication and such conviction or adjudication shall not disqualify such applicant for a firearm identification card;

- (ii) has been confined to any hospital or institution for mental illness, unless the applicant submits with his application an affidavit of a registered physician attesting that such physician is 103 familiar with the applicant's mental illness and that in such physician's opinion the applicant is not disabled by such an illness in a manner that should prevent such applicant from possessing a firearm:
- 107 (iii) is or has been under treatment for or confinement for drug addiction or habitual 108 drunkenness, unless such applicant is deemed to be cured of such condition by a licensed 109 physician, and such applicant may make application for such license after the expiration of five 110 years from the date of such confinement or treatment and upon presentment of an affidavit issued by such physician stating that such physician knows the applicant's history of treatment and that in such physician's opinion the applicant is deemed cured;
- 113 (iv) is at the time of the application less than 21 years of age;
- 114 (v) is an alien other than a lawful permanent resident alien;

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- 115 (vi) is currently subject to: (A) an order for suspension or surrender issued pursuant to 116 section 3B or 3C of chapter 209A or a similar order issued by another jurisdiction; or (B) a permanent or temporary protection order issued pursuant to chapter 209A or a similar order issued by another jurisdiction; or
- 119 (vii) is currently the subject of an outstanding arrest warrant in any state or federal jurisdiction. 120
- 121 (e) Within seven days of the receipt of a completed application for a license to carry or possess firearms, or renewal of same, the licensing authority shall forward one copy of the application and one copy of the applicant's fingerprints to the colonel of state police, who shall 123 124 within 30 days advise the licensing authority, in writing, of any disqualifying criminal record of 125 the applicant arising from within or without the commonwealth and whether there is reason to believe that the applicant is disqualified for any of the foregoing reasons from possessing a 127 license to carry or possess firearms. In searching for any disqualifying history of the applicant, the colonel shall utilize, or cause to be utilized, files maintained by the department of probation and statewide and nationwide criminal justice, warrant and protection order information systems and files including, but not limited to, the National Instant Criminal Background Check System. The colonel shall inquire of the commissioner of the department of mental health relative to whether the applicant is disqualified from being so licensed. If the information available to the
- colonel does not indicate that the possession of a firearm or large capacity firearm by the

applicant would be in violation of state or federal law, he shall certify such fact, in writing, to the licensing authority within said 30 day period.

136 The licensing authority may also make inquiries concerning the applicant to: (i) the 137 commissioner of the department of criminal justice information services relative to any 138 disqualifying condition and records of purchases, sales, rentals, leases and transfers of weapons 139 or ammunition concerning the applicant; (ii) the commissioner of probation relative to any 140 record contained within the department of probation or the statewide domestic violence record keeping system concerning the applicant; and (iii) the commissioner of the department of mental 142 health relative to whether the applicant is a suitable person to possess firearms or is not a suitable person to possess firearms. The director or commissioner to whom the licensing authority makes such inquiry shall provide prompt and full cooperation for that purpose in any investigation of the applicant. The licensing authority shall request copies of mental health records for the 146 applicant from all providers of mental health services that are disclosed on the application.

The licensing authority shall, within 40 days from the date of application, either approve the application and issue the license or deny the application and notify the applicant of the reason for such denial in writing; provided, however, that no such license shall be issued unless the colonel has certified, in writing, that the information available to him does not indicate that the possession of a firearm or large capacity firearm by the applicant would be in violation of state or federal law.

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153 (f) A license issued under this section shall be revoked or suspended by the licensing 154 authority, or his designee, upon the occurrence of any event that would have disqualified the 155 holder from being issued such license or from having such license renewed. A license may be 156 revoked or suspended by the licensing authority if it appears that the holder is no longer a 157 suitable person to possess such license. Any revocation or suspension of a license shall be in 158 writing and shall state the reasons therefor. Upon revocation or suspension, the licensing authority shall take possession of such license and the person whose license is so revoked or 159 160 suspended shall take all actions required under the provisions of section 129D. No appeal or post-judgment motion shall operate to stay such revocation or suspension. Notices of revocation 161 and suspension shall be forwarded to the commissioner of the department of criminal justice 162 information services and the commissioner of probation and shall be included in the criminal 163 justice information system. A revoked or suspended license may be reinstated only upon the termination of all disqualifying conditions, if any. 165

Any applicant or holder aggrieved by a denial, revocation or suspension of a license, unless a hearing has previously been held pursuant to chapter 209A, may, within either 90 days after receiving notice of such denial, revocation or suspension or within 90 days after the expiration of the time limit during which the licensing authority is required to respond to the applicant, file a petition to obtain judicial review in the district court having jurisdiction in the city or town wherein the applicant filed for, or was issued, such license. A justice of such court,

- after a hearing, may direct that a license be issued or reinstated to the petitioner if such justice finds that there was no reasonable ground for denying, suspending or revoking such license and that the petitioner is not prohibited by law from possessing same.
- 175 (g) A license shall be in a standard form provided by the executive director of the 176 criminal history systems board in a size and shape equivalent to that of a license to operate motor vehicles issued by the registry of motor vehicles pursuant to section 8 of chapter 90 and shall 178 contain a license number which shall clearly indicate whether such number identifies a Class A or Class B license, the name, address, photograph, fingerprint, place and date of birth, height, 179 180 weight, hair color, eye color and signature of the licensee. Such license shall be marked "License to Carry Firearms" and shall clearly indicate whether the license is Class A or Class B. The application for such license shall be made in a standard form provided by the executive director of the criminal history systems board, which form shall require the applicant to affirmatively 184 state under the pains and penalties of perjury that such applicant is not disqualified on any of the 185 grounds enumerated above from being issued such license.
  - (h) Any person who knowingly files an application containing false information shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$1,000 or by imprisonment for not less than six months nor more than two years in a house of correction, or by not more than ten years in state prison, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

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190 (i) A license to carry or possess firearms shall be valid, unless revoked or suspended, for a period of not more than 6 years from the date of issue and shall expire on the anniversary of the 191 licensee's date of birth occurring not less than 5 years but not more than 6 years from the date of issue, except that if the licensee applied for renewal before the license expired, the license shall 194 remain valid for a period of 90 days beyond the stated expiration date on the license, unless the application for renewal is denied if the licensee is on active duty with the armed forces of the 195 196 United States on the expiration date of his license, the license shall remain valid until the 197 licensee is released from active duty and for a period of not less than 90 days following such 198 release. Any renewal thereof shall expire on the anniversary of the licensee's date of birth occurring not less than 5 years but not more than 6 years from the effective date of such license. 199 200 Any license issued to an applicant born on February 29 shall expire on March 1. The fee for the application shall be \$100, which shall be payable to the licensing authority and shall not be 201 202 prorated or refunded in case of revocation or denial. The licensing authority shall retain \$25 of 203 the fee; \$50 of the fee shall be deposited into the general fund of the commonwealth and not less than \$50,000 of the funds deposited into the General Fund shall be allocated to the Firearm 204 205 Licensing Review Board, established in section 130B, for its operations and that any funds not 206 expended by said board for its operations shall revert back to the General Fund; and \$25 of the 207 fee shall be deposited in the Firearms Fingerprint Identity Verification Trust Fund. For law 208 enforcement officials, or local, state, or federal government entities acting on their behalf, the fee 209 for the application shall be set at \$25, which shall be payable to the licensing authority and shall 210 not be prorated or refunded in case of revocation or denial. The licensing authority shall retain

211 \$12.50 of the fee, and \$12.50 of the fee shall be deposited into the general fund of the 212 commonwealth. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, licensing authorities 213 shall deposit such portion of the license application fee into the Firearms Record Keeping Fund 214 quarterly, not later than January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1 of each year. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, licensing authorities shall deposit quarterly such 216 portion of the license application fee as is to be deposited into the General Fund, not later than 217 January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1 of each year. For the purposes of section 10 of chapter 269, an expired license to carry firearms shall be deemed to be valid for a period not to exceed

219 90 days beyond the stated date of expiration, unless such license to carry firearms has been 220 revoked.

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Any person over the age of 70 and any law enforcement officer applying for a license to 222 carry firearms through his employing agency shall be exempt from the requirement of paying a renewal fee for a Class A or Class B license to carry.

- 224 (i)(1) No license shall be required for the carrying or possession of a firearm 225 known as a detonator and commonly used on vehicles as a signaling and marking device, when 226 carried or possessed for such signaling or marking purposes.
- 227 (2) No license to carry shall be required for the possession of an unloaded large 228 capacity rifle or shotgun or an unloaded feeding device therefor by a veteran's organization 229 chartered by the Congress of the United States, chartered by the commonwealth or recognized as 230 a nonprofit tax-exempt organization by the Internal Revenue Service, or by the members of any 231 such organization when on official parade duty or during ceremonial occasions. For purposes of 232 this subparagraph, an "unloaded large capacity rifle or shotgun" and an "unloaded feeding device 233 therefor" shall include any large capacity rifle, shotgun or feeding device therefor loaded with a 234 blank cartridge or blank cartridges, so-called, which contain no projectile within such blank or 235 blanks or within the bore or chamber of such large capacity rifle or shotgun.
  - (k) Whoever knowingly issues a license in violation of this section shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$1,000 or by imprisonment for not less than six months nor more than two years in a jail or house of correction, or by both such fine and imprisonment.
- 240 (1) The executive director of the criminal history systems board shall send electronically or by first class mail to the holder of each such license to carry firearms, a notice 241 of the expiration of such license not less than 90 days prior to such expiration and shall enclose therein a form for the renewal of such license. The taking of fingerprints shall not be required in issuing the renewal of a license if the renewal applicant's fingerprints are on file with the department of the state police. Any licensee shall notify, in writing, the licensing authority who 246 issued said license, the chief of police into whose jurisdiction the licensee moves and the 247 executive director of the criminal history systems board of any change of address. Such

notification shall be made by certified mail within 30 days of its occurrence. Failure to so notify shall be cause for revocation or suspension of said license. The commissioner of criminal justice information services shall provide electronic notice of expiration only upon the request of a cardholder. A request for electronic notice of expiration shall be forwarded to the department on a form furnished by the commissioner. Any electronic address maintained by the department for the purpose of providing electronic notice of expiration shall be considered a firearms record and shall not be disclosed except as provided in section 10 of chapter 66.

255 (m) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10 of chapter 269, any person in 256 possession of a firearm, rifle or shotgun whose license issued under this section is invalid for the sole reason that it has expired, meaning after 90 days beyond the stated expiration date on the 257 258 license, but who shall not be disqualified from renewal upon application therefor under this 259 section, shall be subject to a civil fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$5,000 and the 260 provisions of section 10 of chapter 269 shall not apply; provided, however, that the exemption from the provisions of said section 10 of said chapter 269 provided herein shall not apply if: (i) 262 such license has been revoked or suspended, unless such revocation or suspension was caused by failure to give notice of a change of address as required under this section; (ii) revocation or suspension of such license is pending, unless such revocation or suspension was caused by failure to give notice of a change of address as required under this section; or (iii) an application 266 for renewal of such license has been denied. Any law enforcement officer who discovers a person to be in possession of a firearm, rifle or shotgun after such person's license has expired, 268 meaning after 90 days beyond the stated expiration date on the license, or has been revoked or suspended, solely for failure to give notice of a change of address, shall confiscate such firearm, 270 rifle or shotgun and the expired or suspended license then in possession and such officer, shall 271 forward such license to the licensing authority by whom it was issued as soon as practicable. The 272 officer shall, at the time of confiscation, provide to the person whose firearm, rifle or shotgun has been confiscated, a written inventory and receipt for all firearms, rifles or shotguns confiscated and the officer and his employer shall exercise due care in the handling, holding and storage of these items. Any confiscated weapon shall be returned to the owner upon the renewal or 276 reinstatement of such expired or suspended license within one year of such confiscation or may be otherwise disposed of in accordance with the provisions of section 129D. The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply if such person has a valid license to carry firearms issued under 278 279 section 131F.

(n) Upon issuance of a license to carry or possess firearms under this section, the licensing authority shall forward a copy of such approved application and license to the executive director of the criminal history systems board, who shall inform the licensing authority forthwith of the existence of any disqualifying condition discovered or occurring subsequent to the issuance of a license under this section.

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285	(o) No person shall be issued a license to carry or possess a machine gun in the
286	commonwealth, except that a licensing authority or the colonel of state police may issue a
287	machine gun license to:
288	(i) a firearm instructor certified by the municipal police training committee
289	for the sole purpose of firearm instruction to police personnel;
290	(ii) a bona fide collector of firearms upon application or upon application
291	for renewal of such license.
292	(p) The executive director of the criminal history systems board shall promulgate
293	regulations in accordance with chapter 30A to establish criteria for persons who shall be
294	classified as bona fide collectors of firearms.
295	(q) Nothing in this section shall authorize the purchase, possession or transfer of
296	any weapon, ammunition or feeding device that is, or in such manner that is, prohibited by state
297	or federal law.
298	(r) The secretary of the executive office of public safety or his designee may promulgate
299	regulations to carry out the purposes of this section.
300	(s) No license issued under this section shall permit the licensee to purchase, rent, lease,

- borrow, posses or carry any assault weapon, large-capacity weapon, or large capacity feeding device, as defined in Section 121 of Chapter 140, except while on the premises of a club or facility with an on-site shooting range or gallery with a Class A license issued by the Colonel of the State Police pursuant to paragraph (a).
- 305 (t) An applicant for a license shall sign a waiver at the time of application allowing the 306 licensing authority access to any records that have a bearing on the mental health of the 307 applicant. The permit application form and the waiver form shall be prescribed by the Secretary 308 of Public Safety and shall be uniform throughout the Commonwealth. Said form shall require an 309 applicant to disclose all providers of mental health treatment or services for 20 years prior to the 310 date of application.
- (u) A health care provider or public health authority shall disclose health information, including protected health care information, relating to any individual's mental health history, to the licensing authority in a timely manner in response to a request for the information from the authority; provided that:
- (i) the information shall be used only for the purpose of evaluating the individual's suitability for a license under this section;
- (ii) the individual has executed a waiver permitting release of the health information for the purpose; And,

- 319 (iii) said health information shall be destroyed by the licensing authority within 30 days 320 following the issuing of a license or the outcome of any appeal.
- (v) In making the determination if an applicant is a suitable person to be issued a license pursuant to this section, the licensing authority shall consider the applicant's stated purpose and intended use of said license, the applicant's experience, training and familiarity with firearms, rifles and shotguns, the applicant's general mental and physical health, the applicant's age and maturity, and any such factors as the licensing authority may deem relevant.
- 326 SECTION 2: Section 129B of Chapter 140 of the General Laws is hereby replaced with 327 the following: -
- A firearm identification card shall be issued and possessed subject to the following conditions and restrictions:
- (1) Any person residing or having a place of business within the jurisdiction of the licensing authority or any person residing in an area of exclusive federal jurisdiction located within a city or town may submit to the licensing authority an application for a firearm identification card, or renewal of the same, which the licensing authority may issue, if it appears that the applicant is a suitable person to be issued such a license, unless the applicant:
- 335 (i) has ever as an adult in a court of the commonwealth or in any other state or federal jurisdiction been convicted, or in a court of the commonwealth or in any other state or federal 336 jurisdiction been adjudicated a youthful offender or delinquent child, both as defined in section 52 of chapter 119, for the commission of: (a) a felony; (b) a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for more than two years; (c) a violent crime as defined in section 121; (d) a violation of any law regulating the use, possession, ownership, transfer, purchase, sale, lease, rental, receipt or transportation of weapons or ammunition for which a term of imprisonment of one year or more may be imposed; or (e) a violation of any law regulating the use, possession or 343 sale of controlled substances, as defined in section 1 of chapter 94C including, but not limited to, a violation under said chapter 94C; or (f) knowingly filing a application for a firearms 345 identification card of license to carry firearms containing false information; provided, however, 346 that except for the commission of a violent crime or a crime involving the trafficking of 347 controlled substances or firearms, if the applicant has been so convicted or adjudicated or 348 released from confinement, probation or parole supervision for such conviction or adjudication, 349 whichever is last occurring, not less than five years immediately preceding such application, 350 such applicant's right or ability to possess a non-large capacity rifle or shotgun shall be deemed restored in the commonwealth with respect to such conviction or adjudication and such 351 352 conviction or adjudication shall not disqualify such applicant for a firearm identification card;
- 353 (ii) has, in any other state or federal jurisdiction, been convicted or 354 adjudicated a youthful offender or delinquent child for the commission of: (a) a felony; (b) a 355 misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for more than two years; (c) a violent crime as

<ul><li>356</li><li>357</li></ul>	defined in section 121; (d) a violation of any law regulating the use, possession, ownership, transfer, purchase, sale, lease, rental, receipt or transportation of weapons or ammunition for
358 359	which a term of imprisonment may be imposed; or (e) a violation of any law regulating the use, possession or sale of controlled substances, as defined in section 1 of chapter 94C; provided,
360	however, that, except for the commission of a violent crime or a crime involving the trafficking
361	of weapons or controlled substances, if the applicant has been so convicted or adjudicated or
362	released from confinement, probation or parole supervision for such conviction or adjudication,
363	whichever is last occurring, not less than five years immediately preceding such application, and
364	such applicant's right or ability to possess a rifle or shotgun has been fully restored in the
365	jurisdiction wherein the subject conviction or adjudication was entered, such conviction or
366	adjudication shall not disqualify such applicant for a firearm identification card;
367	(iii) has been confined to any hospital or institution for mental illness,
368	unless the applicant submits with his application an affidavit of a registered physician attesting
369	that such physician is familiar with the applicant's mental illness and that in such physician's
370	opinion the applicant is not disabled by such an illness in a manner that should prevent the
371	applicant from possessing a firearm, rifle or shotgun;
372	(iv) is or has been under treatment for or confinement for drug addiction
373	or habitual drunkenness, unless such applicant is deemed to be cured of such condition by a
374	licensed physician, in which case he may make application for such card after the expiration of
375	five years from the date of such confinement or treatment and upon presentation of an affidavit
376	issued by such physician to the effect that such physician knows the applicant's history of
377	treatment and that in such physician's opinion the applicant is deemed cured;
378	(v) is at the time of the application less than 15 years of age;
379	(vi) is at the time of the application more than 15 but less than 18 years of
380	age, unless the applicant submits with his application a certificate of his parent or guardian
381	granting the applicant permission to apply for a card;
382	(vii) is an alien other than a lawful permanent resident alien;
383	(viii) is currently subject to: (a) an order for suspension or surrender issued
384	pursuant to section 3B or 3C of chapter 209A or a similar order issued by another jurisdiction; or
385	(b) a permanent or temporary protection order issued pursuant to chapter 209A or a similar order
386	issued by another jurisdiction; or
387	(ix) is currently the subject of an outstanding arrest warrant in any state or
388	federal jurisdiction.
389	(2) Within seven days of the receipt of a completed application for a card, the
390	licensing authority shall forward one copy of the application and one copy of the applicant's

391 fingerprints to the colonel of state police, who shall, within 30 days, advise the licensing 392 authority, in writing, of any disqualifying criminal record of the applicant arising from within or 393 without the commonwealth and whether there is reason to believe that the applicant is 394 disqualified for any of the foregoing reasons from possessing a card; provided, however, that the 395 taking of fingerprints shall not be required in issuing the renewal of a card if the renewal 396 applicant's fingerprints are on file with the department of state police. In searching for any disqualifying history of the applicant, the colonel shall utilize, or cause to be utilized, files 398 maintained by the department of mental health, department of probation and statewide and 399 nationwide criminal justice, warrant and protection order information systems and files 400 including, but not limited to, the National Instant Criminal Background Check System. If the information available to the colonel does not indicate that the possession of a non-large capacity rifle or shotgun by the applicant would be in violation of state or federal law, he shall certify 403 such fact, in writing, to the licensing authority within such 30 day period.

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The licensing authority may also make inquiries concerning the applicant to: (i) the 405 commissioner of the department of criminal justice information services relative to any disqualifying condition and records of purchases, sales, rentals, leases and transfers of weapons or ammunition concerning the applicant; (ii) the commissioner of probation relative to any 407 record contained within the department of probation or the statewide domestic violence record keeping system concerning the applicant; and (iii) the commissioner of the department of mental 410 health relative to whether the applicant is a suitable person to possess firearms or is not a suitable person to possess firearms. The director or commissioner to whom the licensing authority makes such inquiry shall provide prompt and full cooperation for that purpose in any investigation of the applicant. The licensing authority shall request copies of mental health records for the applicant from all providers of mental health services that are disclosed on the application.

- (3) The licensing authority shall, within 40 days from the date of application, either approve the application and issue the license or deny the application and notify the applicant of the reason for such denial in writing; provided, however, that no such card shall be issued unless the colonel has certified, in writing, that the information available to him does not indicate that the possession of a rifle or shotgun by the applicant would be in violation of state or federal law.
- 421 (4) A firearm identification card shall be revoked or suspended by the licensing 422 authority or his designee upon the occurrence of any event that would have disqualified the holder from being issued such card or from having such card renewed or for a violation of a 423 restriction provided under this section. Such card may be revoked or suspended by the licensing 424 425 authority if it appears that the holder is no longer a suitable person to possess such card. Any revocation or suspension of a card shall be in writing and shall state the reasons therefor. Upon 426 427 revocation or suspension, the licensing authority shall take possession of such card and receipt 428 for fee paid for such card, and the person whose card is so revoked or suspended shall take all 429 action required under the provisions of section 129D. No appeal or post-judgment motion shall

430 operate to stay such revocation or suspension. Notices of revocation and suspension shall be 431 forwarded to the commissioner of the department of criminal justice information services and the 432 commissioner of probation and shall be included in the criminal justice information system. A revoked or suspended card may be reinstated only upon the termination of all disqualifying 434 conditions.

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- (5) Any applicant or holder aggrieved by a denial, revocation or suspension of a 436 firearm identification card, unless a hearing has previously been held pursuant to chapter 209A, may, within either 90 days after receipt of notice of such denial, revocation or suspension or 438 within 90 days after the expiration of the time limit in which the licensing authority is required to respond to the applicant, file a petition to obtain judicial review in the district court having jurisdiction in the city or town wherein the applicant filed for or was issued such card. A justice of such court, after a hearing, may direct that a card be issued or reinstated to the petitioner if such justice finds that there was no reasonable ground for denying, suspending or revoking such license and that the petitioner is not prohibited by law from possessing same.
- 444 (6) A firearm identification card shall not entitle a holder thereof to possess: (i) a 445 large capacity firearm or large capacity feeding device therefor, except under a Class A license 446 issued to a shooting club as provided under section 131 or under the direct supervision of a 447 holder of a Class A license issued to an individual under section 131 at an incorporated shooting 448 club or licensed shooting range; or (ii) a non-large capacity firearm or large capacity rifle or 449 shotgun or large capacity feeding device therefor, except under a Class A license issued to a 450 shooting club as provided under section 131 or under the direct supervision of a holder of a Class 451 A or Class B license issued to an individual under section 131 at an incorporated shooting club 452 or licensed shooting range. A firearm identification card shall not entitle a holder thereof to 453 possess any rifle or shotgun that is, or in such manner that is, otherwise prohibited by law. A 454 firearm identification card shall be valid for the purpose of purchasing and possessing chemical mace, pepper spray or other similarly propelled liquid, gas or powder designed to temporarily 455 456 incapacitate. Except as otherwise provided herein, a firearm identification card shall not be valid for the use, possession, ownership, transfer, purchase, sale, lease, rental or transportation of a 458 rifle or shotgun if such rifle or shotgun is a large capacity weapon as defined in section 121.
- 459 (7) A firearm identification card shall be in a standard form provided by the 460 commissioner of the department of criminal justice information services in a size and shape 461 equivalent to that of a license to operate motor vehicles issued by the registry of motor vehicles pursuant to section 8 of chapter 90 and shall contain an identification number, name, address, 462 photograph, fingerprint, place and date of birth, height, weight, hair color, eye color and 463 464 signature of the cardholder and shall be marked "Firearm Identification Card". If a firearm 465 identification card is issued for the sole purpose of purchasing or possessing chemical mace, 466 pepper spray or other similarly propelled liquid, gas or powder designed to temporarily incapacitate, such card shall clearly state that such card is valid for such limited purpose only. 467 468 The application for such card shall be made in a standard form provided by the commissioner of

the department of criminal justice information services which shall require the applicant to affirmatively state, under the pains and penalties of perjury, that he is not disqualified on any of 471 the grounds enumerated in clauses (i) to (ix), inclusive, from being issued such card.

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- (8) Any person who knowingly files an application containing false information shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$1,000 or by imprisonment for not less than six months nor more than two years in a house of correction, or by not more than ten years in state prison, or by both such fine and imprisonment.
- 476 (9) A firearm identification card shall be valid, unless revoked or suspended, for a 477 period of not more than 6 years from the date of issue, except that if the cardholder applied for renewal before the card expired, the card shall remain valid for a period of 90 days after the 478 479 stated expiration date on the card, unless the application for renewal is denied; provided, 480 however, that if the cardholder is on active duty with the armed forces of the United States on the 481 expiration date of his card, the card shall remain valid until the cardholder is released from active 482 duty and for a period of not less than 90 days following such release. A card issued on February 483 29 shall expire on March 1. The executive director of the criminal history systems board shall 484 send electronically or by first class mail to the holder of a firearm identification card, a notice of 485 the expiration of the card not less than 90 days before its expiration, and shall enclose with the 486 notice a form for the renewal of the card. The executive director of the criminal history systems 487 board shall include in the notice all pertinent information about the penalties that may be 488 imposed if the firearm identification card is not renewed within the 90 days before expiration. 489 The commissioner of criminal justice information services shall provide electronic notice of 490 expiration only upon the request of a cardholder. A request for electronic notice of expiration 491 shall be forwarded to the department on a form furnished by the commissioner. Any electronic 492 address maintained by the department for the purpose of providing electronic notice of expiration 493 shall be considered a firearms record and shall not be disclosed except as provided in section 10 494 of chapter 66.
- (9A) Except as provided in clause (9B), the fee for an application for a firearm 496 identification card shall be \$100, which shall be payable to the licensing authority and shall not be prorated or refunded in the case of revocation or denial. The licensing authority shall retain \$25 of the fee; \$50 of the fee shall be deposited in the General Fund; and \$25 of the fee shall be 498 499 deposited in the Firearms Fingerprint Identity Verification Trust Fund. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, licensing authorities shall deposit quarterly that portion of 500 501 the firearm identification card application fee which is to be deposited into the General Fund, not later than January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1 of each year. 502
- (9B) The application fee for a firearm identification card issued for the sole purpose of purchasing or possessing chemical mace, pepper spray or other similarly propelled liquid, gas or powder designed to temporarily incapacitate shall be \$25, which shall be payable to the licensing authority and shall not be prorated or refunded in the case of revocation or 506

denial. The licensing authority shall retain 50 per cent of the fee and the remaining portion shall be deposited in the General Fund. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, licensing authorities shall deposit quarterly that portion of the firearm identification card application fee which is to be deposited into the General Fund, not later than January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1 of each year. There shall be no application fee for the renewal of a firearm identification card issued under this clause.

A firearm identification card issued under this clause shall display, in clear and conspicuous language, that the card shall be valid only for the purpose of purchasing or possessing chemical mace, pepper spray or other similarly propelled liquid, gas or powder designed to temporarily incapacitate.

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- (9C) Except as provided in clause (9B), the fee for an application for a firearm identification card for any person under the age of 18 shall be \$25, which shall be payable to the licensing authority and shall not be prorated or refunded in the case of revocation or denial. The licensing authority shall retain 50 per cent of the fee and the remaining portion shall be deposited into the General Fund. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, licensing authorities shall deposit quarterly that portion of the firearm identification card application fee which is to be deposited into the General Fund, not later than January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1 of each year.
- 525 (10) Any person over the age of 70 shall be exempt from the requirement of 526 paying a renewal fee for a firearm identification card.
- (11) A cardholder shall notify, in writing, the licensing authority that issued such card, the chief of police into whose jurisdiction such cardholder moves and the executive director of the criminal history systems board of any change of address. Such notification shall be made by certified mail within 30 days of its occurrence. Failure to so notify shall be cause for revocation or suspension of such card.
- 532 (12) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10 of chapter 269, any person in 533 possession of a non-large capacity rifle or shotgun whose firearm identification card issued under this section is invalid for the sole reason that it has expired, meaning after 90 days beyond the 535 stated expiration date on the card, but who shall not be disqualified from renewal upon 536 application therefor under this section, shall be subject to a civil fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$5,000 and the provisions of said section 10 of said chapter 269 shall not apply; 537 538 provided, however, that the exemption from the provisions of said section 10 of said chapter 269 provided herein shall not apply if: (i) such firearm identification card has been revoked or 539 540 suspended, unless such revocation or suspension was caused by failure to give notice of a change of address as required under this section; (ii) revocation or suspension of such firearm identification card is pending, unless such revocation or suspension was caused by failure to give 542 notice of a change of address as required under this section; or (iii) an application for renewal of 543

544 such firearm identification card has been denied. Any law enforcement officer who discovers a 545 person to be in possession of a rifle or shotgun after such person's firearm identification card has 546 expired, meaning after 90 days beyond the stated expiration date on the card, or has been 547 revoked or suspended solely for failure to give notice of a change of address shall confiscate any 548 rifle or shotgun and such expired or suspended card then in possession, and such officer shall 549 forward such card to the licensing authority by whom it was issued as soon as practicable. Any 550 confiscated weapon shall be returned to the owner upon the renewal or reinstatement of such expired or suspended card within one year of such confiscation or such weapon may be otherwise disposed of in accordance with the provisions of section 129D. Pending the issuance or denial of a renewed firearm identification card, a receipt for the fee paid, after five days 554 following issuance, shall serve as a valid substitute and any rifle or shotgun so confiscated shall be returned, unless the applicant is disqualified. The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply if such person has a valid license to carry firearms issued under section 131 or 131F.

- (13) Upon issuance of a firearm identification card under this section, the 558 licensing authority shall forward a copy of such approved application and card to the executive director of the criminal history systems board, who shall inform the licensing authority forthwith of the existence of any disqualifying condition discovered or occurring subsequent to the issuance of a firearm identification card under this section.
- 562 (14) Nothing in this section shall authorize the purchase, possession or transfer of any weapon, ammunition or feeding device that is, or in such manner that is, prohibited by state or 563 564 federal law.
- 565 (15) The secretary of the executive office of public safety, or his designee, may promulgate regulations to carry out the purposes of this section. 566

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- (16) An applicant for a license shall sign a waiver at the time of application allowing the licensing authority access to any records that have a bearing on the mental health of the applicant. The permit application form and the waiver form shall be prescribed by the Secretary of Public Safety and shall be uniform throughout the Commonwealth. Said form shall require an applicant to disclose all providers of mental health treatment or services for 20 years prior to the date of application.
- 573 (17) A health care provider or public health authority shall disclose health information, including protected health care information, relating to any individual's mental health history, to 574 the licensing authority in a timely way in response to a request for the information from the 575 authority; provided that: 576
- 577 (a) the information shall be used only for the purpose of evaluating the individual's suitability for a license under this section;

- 579 (b) the individual has executed a waiver permitting release of the health information for the purpose; And, 580
- 581 (c) said health information shall be destroyed by the licensing authority within 30 days following the issuing of a license or the outcome of any appeal. 582
- 583 (18) In making the determination if an applicant is a suitable person to be issued a 584 firearms identification card pursuant to this section, the licensing authority shall consider the 585 applicant's stated purpose and intended use of said license, the applicant's experience, training and familiarity with firearms, rifles and shotguns, the applicant's general mental and physical 586 health, the applicant's age and maturity, and any such factors as the licensing authority may 587 588 deem relevant.
- 589 SECTION 3. Section 123 of chapter 140 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking in clause 16 the words:- "that was not otherwise lawfully possessed on 590 September 13, 1994", and inserting in place thereof the following:— "unless such sale, lease, rent, transfer or delivery is made to a law enforcement agency." 592
- 593 SECTION 4. Chapter 140 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the 594 following section:-

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- Section 207. (a) Whoever possess, carries, or owns a firearm, rifle or shotgun without a liability policy or bond or deposit required by the provisions of this chapter which has not been 596 provided and maintained in accordance therewith shall be punished by a fine of not less than five hundred nor more than five thousand dollars or by imprisonment for not more than one year in a house of correction, or both such fine and imprisonment. This section shall not apply to a person who possesses a firearm, rifle, or shotgun on a temporary basis while on the premises of a licensed gun club.
  - (b) The commissioner of insurance shall promulgate regulations set forth for the minimum terms of liability insurance polices which shall satisfy the requirements of this section.
- 604 SECTION 5:- Section 131P of the Chapter 140 of the General Laws is hereby repealed 605 and replaced with the following:-
- 606 Section 131P. (a) Any person making application for the issuance of a firearms identification card under section 129B, a Class A or Class B license to carry firearms under 607 608 section 131 or 131F or a permit to purchase under section 131A who was not licensed under the provisions of this chapter on June 1, 1998 shall, in addition to the requirements set forth in said 609 610 section 129B, 131, 131A or 131F, submit to the licensing authority a basic firearms safety certificate; and provided further, that an applicant for a firearms identification card for the sole purpose of purchasing or possessing chemical mace, pepper spray or other similarly propelled liquid, gas or powder designed to temporarily incapacitate shall not be required to complete a

614 basic firearms safety course as a prerequisite for receiving such card. Persons lawfully 615 possessing a firearm identification card or license to carry firearms on June 1, 1998 shall be exempt from the provisions of this section upon expiration of such card or license and when applying for licensure as required under this chapter. No application for the issuance of a firearm 618 identification card or license to carry shall be accepted or processed by the licensing authority 619 without such certificate attached thereto; provided, however, that the provisions of this section shall not apply to (i) any member of the military or other service of any state or of the United States and any such member having received an honorable discharge from such service; (ii) any 622 duly authorized law enforcement officer; and (iii) any officer, agent or employee of the commonwealth or any state of the United States.; provided, however, that any such person 624 described in clauses (i) to (iii), inclusive, is authorized by a competent authority to carry or 625 possess the weapon so carried or possessed and is acting within the scope of his duties.

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- (b) The colonel of state police shall promulgate rules and regulations governing the issuance and form of basic firearms safety certificates required by this section. Said colonel shall 627 628 certify certain persons as firearms safety instructors and shall certify safety course curriculum. 629 Said curriculum must include a minimum of at least five hours of live discharge of firearms, rifles and shotguns at a licensed gun club, including the discharge of at least 50 rounds of ammunition. Such certification shall be for a period of ten years, unless sooner revoked by 632 reason of unsuitability, in the discretion of said colonel. The department of state police may 633 impose a fee of \$50 for initial issuance of such certification to offset the cost of certifying 634 instructors. The fee for certification renewal shall be \$10. Firearms safety instructors shall be any person certified by a nationally recognized organization that fosters safety in firearms, or any other person in the discretion of said colonel, to be competent to give instruction in a basic 637 firearms safety course. Applicants for certification as instructors under the provisions of this 638 section shall not be exempt from the requirements of this chapter or any other law or regulation of the commonwealth or the United States. Upon application to the colonel of state police, said colonel may, in his discretion, certify as a firearms safety instructor any person who operates a firearms safety course or program which provides in its curriculum: (a) the safe use, handling and storage of firearms; (b) methods for securing and childproofing firearms; (c) the applicable laws relating to the possession, transportation and storage of firearms; and (d) knowledge of operation, potential dangers and basic competency in the ownership and usage of firearms.
  - (c) Any firearms safety instructor certified under the provisions of this section may, in his discretion, issue a basic firearms safety certificate to any person who successfully completes the requirements of a basic firearms safety course approved by the colonel. No firearms safety instructor shall issue or cause to be issued any basic firearms safety certificate to any person who fails to meet minimum requirements of the prescribed course of study including, but not limited to, demonstrated competency in the use of firearms. Instructors certified under the provisions of this section shall forward to the department of state police the names of those persons who have received basic firearms safety certificates. Local licensing authorities, as defined in section 121,

- shall, upon receipt of an application for a firearm identification card or a Class A or Class B 654 license to carry firearms, make inquiry to the department of state police to confirm the issuance to the applicant of a basic firearms safety certificate. 655
- 656 (d) Any person applying for licensure under the provisions of this chapter who knowingly files or submits a basic firearms safety certificate to a licensing authority which contains false 657 658 information shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$5,000 or by 659 imprisonment for not more than two years in a house of correction, or by both such fine and imprisonment. 660
- (e) Any firearms safety instructor who knowingly issues a basic firearms safety certificate to a person who has not successfully completed a firearms safety course approved by the colonel 662 shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$5,000 nor more than \$10,000 or by imprisonment for not more than two years in a house of correction, or by both such fine and imprisonment.
  - SECTION 6. Chapter 64H of the General Laws shall be amended by adding the following new section:-

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- Section 34. An excise is hereby imposed upon sales at retail in the commonwealth, by any vendor, of ammunition, rifles, shotguns, firearms or parts thereof at the rate of 25 percent of the gross receipts of the vendor from all such sales of such property. The excise shall be paid by the vendor to the commissioner at the time provided for filing the return required by section 670 sixteen of chapter sixty-two C. Said receipts shall be deposited in a trust account called "Firearm Sales Tax Trust Fund" which shall be set up on the books of the Commonwealth for the purposes of firearms licensing, mental health services and victim's services, subject to appropriation.
- 674 SECTION 7. Section 167A of chapter 6 of the General Laws, as inserted by section 8 of 675 chapter 256 of the acts of 2010, is hereby amended by inserting the following paragraph:-
- (h) Notwithstanding any general or special law or court order, including an order of impoundment, to the contrary, the department shall transmit to the Attorney General of the 677 United States any information in its control required or permitted under federal law to be 679 included in the National Instant Background Check System or any successor system maintained for the purpose of conducting background checks for firearms sales or licensing. No more information than is necessary for the purposes stated above shall be transmitted, and such 682 information shall not be considered a public record under section 7 of chapter 4.
- 683 SECTION 8. Section 35 of chapter 123 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2008 684 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word "days.", in line 38, the following words:- The court in its order shall specify whether such commitment is based upon a finding 686 that said person is an alcoholic, a substance abuser, or both, and this information shall be entered in the record to permit transmission to the department of criminal justice information services for 687 the purposes and under the conditions set forth in the second paragraph of section 36A. 688

SECTION 9. Section 36A of chapter 123, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the first paragraph the following paragraph:-

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Notwithstanding the foregoing, the administrative office of the trial court shall transmit 692 information contained in court records maintained under this section to the department of 693 criminal justice information services for the purposes of (a) providing licensing authorities as 694 defined under section 121 of chapter 140 with information required or permitted to be considered 695 under state or federal law for the purpose of conducting background checks for firearms sales or 696 licensing and (b) providing the Attorney General of the United States with information required 697 or permitted under federal law to be included in the National Instant Criminal Background Check 698 System or any successor system maintained for the purpose of conducting background checks for 699 firearms sales or licensing. The commissioner of the department of criminal justice information 700 services shall determine which court records shall be transmitted for said purposes, provided that 701 the commissioner shall require no more information than is necessary to be transmitted, and such 702 information shall not be considered a public record under section 7 of chapter 4.

SECTION 10. Section 129B of chapter 140 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 85, the words "department of mental health,".

SECTION 11. Section 130B of chapter 140 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting the following subsection:-

(h) There shall be, within the firearm licensing review board, a relief from disabilities subcommittee comprised of 3 members, designated from time to time, as follows: 1 member of the firearm licensing review board designated by the chair, 1 person designated by the commissioner of the department of mental health, and 1 person designated by the secretary of public safety and security, who shall chair the subcommittee.

An applicant who has been formally adjudicated as mentally defective in the commonwealth or committed involuntarily to a mental institution in the commonwealth, within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. § 922, may petition the subcommittee for relief from the firearms prohibitions or disabilities imposed by federal law as the result of such adjudication or commitment.

717 The applicant shall have the opportunity to submit evidence to the subcommittee and to 718 be heard by the subcommittee in support of the application. All hearings shall be conducted in an informal manner, but otherwise according to the rules of evidence, and all witnesses shall be sworn by the subcommittee chair. If requested by the petitioner and payment for stenographic services, as determined by the subcommittee, accompanies such request, the subcommittee shall 722 cause a verbatim transcript of the hearing to be made. The subcommittee's decisions and findings of facts shall be communicated in writing to the petitioner and to the licensing authority to which the petitioner has applied or intends to apply within 60 days of rendering a decision. The subcommittee shall maintain the records of its proceedings and of all materials submitted or 726 considered by the subcommittee for the purposes of judicial review for a minimum of 3 years following the date of its decision. The records of the subcommittee shall not be considered a public record under section 7 of chapter 4.

729 If the majority of the subcommittee determines that the applicant has shown by clear and 730 convincing evidence that the applicant will not be likely to act in a manner dangerous to public safety and that granting relief will not be contrary to the public interest, the subcommittee may 731 732 grant relief and direct the department of criminal justice information services to notify the 733 Attorney General of the United States and to remove the record of the prohibition or disability 734 from any database that the department of criminal justice information services, the 735 commonwealth or the federal government maintains and makes available to the National Instant 736 Criminal Background Check System or any successor system maintained for the purpose of conducting background checks for firearms sales or licensing.

In determining whether to grant relief, the subcommittee shall consider the circumstances 739 regarding the firearms disabilities imposed; the applicant's record, including the applicant's 740 mental health and criminal history records; and the applicant's reputation developed, at a minimum, through character witness statements, testimony, or other character evidence. The 741 742 applicant shall have the burden to produce evidence concerning these matters and the burden of persuading the subcommittee to grant relief. The subcommittee may promulgate regulations governing the application process and the conduct of its hearings.

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The decision of the subcommittee shall be a final decision. An applicant who is denied 746 relief by the subcommittee may, within 30 days of the receipt of the denial, seek review of the subcommittee's decision by filing a complaint in the district court. The district court's review of 747 748 the subcommittee's decision shall be de novo, and the court may in its discretion receive additional evidence necessary to conduct an adequate review.

The firearm licensing review board shall establish a fee to file an application for relief 751 under this section, which fees shall be retained by the department of criminal justice information 752 services.

753 SECTION 12. Section 131 of chapter 140 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 155-157, the words "The colonel shall inquire of the 755 commissioner of the department of mental health relative to whether the applicant is disqualified from being so licensed." 756

757 SECTION 13. Chapter 265 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after 758 section 13M the following section:-

759 Section 13N. Upon entry of a conviction for any misdemeanor offense that has as an 760 element the use or attempted use of physical force, or the threatened use of a deadly weapon, the court shall determine whether the victim or intended victim was a family or household member

762 of the defendant, as defined in section 1 of chapter 209A. If the victim or intended victim was a 763 family or household member of the defendant, the court shall enter the offense, the chapter, 764 section and subsection, if any, of the offense, and the relationship of the defendant to the victim 765 upon the record, and this entry shall be forwarded to the department of criminal justice 766 information services for inclusion in the criminal justice information system and for the purpose of providing the Attorney General of the United States with information required or permitted 768 under federal law to be included in the National Instant Criminal Background Check System or any successor system maintained for the purpose of conducting background checks for firearms 770 sales or licensing.

771 SECTION 14. Notwithstanding any general or special law or court order, including an order of impoundment, to the contrary, the administrative office of the trial court shall transmit any order of the probate court appointing a guardian or conservator for an incapacitated person 774 under part 3 or part 4 of article V of the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code on the ground that the person lacks the mental capacity to contract or manage his or her own affairs, and any 776 subsequent order terminating or rescinding such appointment, to the department of criminal 777 justice information services for the purpose of providing the Attorney General of the United 778 States with information required or permitted under federal law to be included in the National 779 Instant Criminal Background Check System or any successor system maintained for the purpose 780 of conducting background checks for firearms sales or licensing. The department of criminal justice information services shall transmit no more information than is necessary for the purpose stated above, and such information shall not be considered a public record under section 7 of chapter 4. 783

SECTION 15. Notwithstanding section 36 of chapter 123 of the General Laws, and for the sole purposes of providing licensing authorities as defined under section 121 of chapter 140 785 of the General Laws with information required or permitted to be considered under state law for the purpose of conducting background checks for firearms sales or licensing and of providing the Attorney General of the United States with information required or permitted under federal law to be included in the National Instant Criminal Background Check System or any successor system maintained for the purpose of conducting background checks for firearms sales or licensing:

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- (a) No later than 6 months from the effective date of this act, the department of mental health shall transmit to the department of criminal justice information services sufficient 793 information to identify all persons known to the department of mental health who have been confined to any hospital or institution for mental illness within 20 years of the effective date or 796 who are so confined at the time of transmission; and
- 797 (b) Thereafter, the department of mental health shall transmit such information to the 798 department of criminal justice information services on a quarterly basis concerning individuals who have been so confined in the 3-month period preceding the date of each transmission. 799

800 Such information shall not be considered a public record under section 7 of chapter 4. 801 SECTION 16. Sections 4 and 6 shall take effect 6 months after the effective date of this 802 act. 803 SECTION 17. Section 123 of chapter 140 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is 804 hereby amended by inserting after the first sentence in the third paragraph the following sentence:- No person licensed under section 122 shall sell, rent or lease, to another person, other 805 than to an exempt person under subsection (c) of section 131E, more than 1 rifle, shotgun, 806 807 firearm, machine gun, large capacity weapon or large capacity feeding device in any 30-day 808 period. 809 810 SECTION 18. Section 128A of chapter 140 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is 811 hereby amended by adding the following 2 sentences:- Any sale or transfer conducted under this section shall comply with section 131E and shall take place at the location of a dealer licensed 813 under section 122, who shall transmit the information required by this section for the purchases and sales by utilizing the electronic verification link established by the executive director of the 815 criminal history systems board. A licensed dealer may charge the seller a fee not to exceed \$25 for each sale or transfer electronically submitted on behalf of the seller to the criminal history systems board. 817 818 SECTION 19. Section 129C of chapter 140, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the word "purpose", in line 84, the following words:-, provided, however, that 819 nothing in this subsection shall allow for the holding, handling, or firing of a machine gun by any person other than a person licensed to possess a machine gun under section 131(o) or police 821 personnel receiving instruction from a firearm instructor certified by the municipal police 823 training committee or the colonel of the state police 824 825 SECTION 20. Section 129D of chapter 140 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the word "be", in line 43, the following words:- destroyed by 826 the colonel of the state police or the licensing authority or 827 828 829 SECTION 21. Section 130 of chapter 140 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is 830 hereby amended by inserting after the word "shotgun", in line 8, the following words:- or 831 machine gun 832

- 833 SECTION 22. Section 130 is hereby further amended by inserting after the word 834 "years", in line 28, the following words:-; and provided further, that nothing in this section shall 835 allow for the holding, handling, or firing of a machine gun by any person other than a person 836 licensed to possess a machine gun under section 131(o) or police personnel receiving instruction from a firearm instructor certified by the municipal police training committee or the colonel of the state police 838
- 839 SECTION 23. Section 131E of chapter 140 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after subsection (b) the following subsection:-840
- 841 (c) No person, other than an exempt person as defined in this subsection shall purchase, 842 rent or lease more than 1 rifle, shotgun, firearm, machine gun, large capacity weapon or large 843 capacity feeding device in any 30-day period.
- 844 This subsection shall not apply to the following persons and uses:
- 845 any law enforcement agency or authority;

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- 846 any branch of the United States military, including the National Guard;
- 847 any persons in any branch of the United States military, police officers or other peace officers who are acquiring firearms for the purposes of performing their official duties or 848 when duly authorized by their employer to purchase them; 849
- 850 any licensed watch, guard or patrol agency or their licensed employees for the 851 purposes of performing duties in the course of employment under sections 22 and 25 of chapter 852 147;
- 853 a federal, state or local historical society, museum or institutional collector open to 854 the public;
- 855 any person who purchases, rents or leases a rifle, shotgun, firearm, machine gun, 856 large capacity weapon or large capacity feeding device and then exchanges it for another rifle, 857 shotgun, firearm, machine gun, large capacity weapon or large capacity feeding device provided 858 by a licensed dealer within a 30-day period; and
- 859 a firearms surrender program authorized by and in compliance with section 131O.

Upon receipt of a record of a sale, rental or lease of a rifle, shotgun, firearm, machine gun, large capacity weapon or large capacity feeding device from a licensee as required under section 123 or a person without a license under section 128A, the executive director of the 863 criminal history systems board, or the executive director's agent, shall determine whether a person has purchased, rented or leased more than 1 rifle, shotgun, firearm, machine gun, large capacity weapon or large capacity feeding device in any 30-day period in violation of this subsection. If a person has purchased, rented or leased in violation of this subsection, the

867 executive director of the criminal history systems board, or the executive director's agent, shall 868 forward any records demonstrating the relevant acquisition history to the colonel of the state police or the colonel's agent, the prosecutor, and the chief of police in the city or town in which the person resides or where the second rifle, shotgun, firearm, machine gun, large capacity 871 weapon or large capacity feeding device was obtained in violation of this subsection.

A non-exempt person who purchases, rents or leases more than 1 rifle, shotgun, firearm, 873 machine gun, large capacity weapon or large capacity feeding device in any 30-day period shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000, or by imprisonment for not more than 2 ½ years, 875 or both, for a first offense; and for any subsequent offense shall be punished by a fine of not less 876 than \$1,000 and not more than \$5,000, or by imprisonment for not more than 2 ½ years in a house of correction or not more than 5 years in the state prison, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Any licensed dealer under section 122 or any other individual who sells, rents or leases a 880 rifle, shotgun, firearm, machine gun, large capacity weapon or large capacity feeding device to a non-exempt person under this section, having sold, rented or leased a rifle, shotgun, firearm, 882 machine gun, large capacity weapon or large capacity feeding device to the person within the previous 30 days or with actual knowledge that the person has purchased, rented or leased a rifle, shotgun, firearm, machine gun, large capacity weapon or large capacity feeding device within the 884 previous 30 days, shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$5,000, or by imprisonment of not 886 more than 2 ½ years, or both, for a first offense; and for any subsequent offense shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$10,000, or by imprisonment for not more than 2 ½ years in a house of correction or not more than 5 years in the state prison, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

SECTION 24. Section one hundred and twenty one of chapter one hundred and forty is hereby amended by deleting the definition of "ammunition" and replacing it with the following definition: -

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"Ammunition" shall mean a cartridge consisting of a cartridge case or hull, propellant powder, primer, and bullet, shot or pellet as a single complete projectile load for any firearm, rifle, shotgun or machine gun. The term ammunition shall also mean any projectile powder for use in any firearm, rifle, shotgun or machine gun.

SECTION 25. Section 131 M of chapter one hundred and forty is hereby amended by deleting it in its entirety and replacing it with the following: -

No person shall sell, offer for sale, transfer or possess an assault weapon or a large capacity feeding device that was not otherwise lawfully possessed on September 13, 1994. Whoever not being licensed under the provisions of section 122 violates the provisions of this section shall be punished, for a first offense, by a fine of not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$10,000 or by imprisonment for not less than one year nor more than ten years, or by both such fine and imprisonment, and for a second offense, by a fine of not less than \$5,000 nor more than \$15,000 or by imprisonment for not less than five years nor more than 15 years, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

The provisions of this section shall not apply to the possession of an assault weapon or large capacity feeding device by a law enforcement officer, or a retired law enforcement officer qualified under the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act.

911 SECTION 26. Section (m) of Chapter 269 is hereby repealed and replaced with the 912 following:-

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913 (m) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a) or (h), any person not exempted by statute who knowingly has in his possession, or knowingly has under his control in a vehicle, a 914 large capacity weapon or large capacity feeding device except as permitted or otherwise provided under this section or chapter 140, shall be punished by imprisonment in a state prison 917 for not less than five years nor more than twenty years. The sentence imposed upon such person 918 shall not be reduced to less than five years, nor suspended, nor shall any person convicted under 919 this subsection be eligible for probation, parole, furlough, work release or receive any deduction 920 from his sentence for good conduct until he shall have served such minimum term of such 921 sentence; provided, however, that the commissioner of correction may, on the recommendation 922 of the warden, superintendent or other person in charge of a correctional institution or the administrator of a county correctional institution, grant to such offender a temporary release in 924 the custody of an officer of such institution for the following purposes only: (i) to attend the 925 funeral of a spouse or next of kin; (ii) to visit a critically ill close relative or spouse; or (iii) to 926 obtain emergency medical services unavailable at such institution. Prosecutions commenced 927 under this subsection shall neither be continued without a finding nor placed on file. The provisions of section 87 of chapter 276 relative to the power of the court to place certain 928 offenders on probation shall not apply to any person 17 years of age or over charged with a 930 violation of this section.

The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to the possession of a large capacity weapon or large capacity feeding device by (i) any officer, agent or employee of the commonwealth or any other state or the United States, including any federal, state or local law enforcement personnel; (ii) any member of the military or other service of any state or the United States; (iii) any duly authorized law enforcement officer, agent or employee of any municipality of the commonwealth; (iv) any federal, state or local historical society, museum or institutional collection open to the public; provided, however, that any such person described in clauses (i) to (iii), inclusive, is authorized by a competent authority to acquire, possess or carry a large capacity semiautomatic weapon and is acting within the scope of his duties; (v) any gunsmith

940 duly licensed under the applicable federal law; or (vi) or a retired law enforcement officer qualified under the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act.

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942 SECTION 27. Section 10(j) of chapter two hundred and sixty-nine is hereby amended by 943 deleting it in its entirety and replacing it with the following: -

(j) Whoever, not being a law enforcement officer, and notwithstanding any license 945 obtained by him under the provisions of chapter 140, knowingly has in his possession; or 946 knowingly has under his control in a vehicle; a firearm, rifle, shotgun, machine gun, assault 947 weapon or ammunition as defined in section 121 of chapter 140, in any building or on the grounds of any elementary or secondary school, college or university without the written 948 949 authorization of the board or officer in charge of such elementary or secondary school, college or 950 university shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars or by imprisonment 951 for not more than two years or by both such fine and imprisonment. A police officer or any 952 person authorized to serve criminal process may arrest a person whom the officer has probable 953 cause to believe has violated the provisions of this paragraph.

Whoever, not being a law enforcement officer, knowingly has in his possession; or 955 knowingly has under his control in a vehicle; a dangerous weapon, or an air gun, so-called BB gun, paintball gun, air rifle or air pistol or other smoothbore arm capable of discharging a shot or 957 pellet by whatever means in any building or on the grounds of any elementary or secondary 958 school, college or university without the written authorization of the board or officer in charge of 959 such elementary or secondary school, college or university shall be punished by a fine of not 960 more than five hundred dollars or by imprisonment for not more than one year. A police officer or any person authorized to serve criminal process may arrest a person whom the officer has 962 probable cause to believe has violated the provisions of this paragraph.

Whoever knowingly has in his possession; or knowingly has under his control in a 964 vehicle an explosive or incendiary device in any building or on the grounds of any elementary or secondary school, college or university shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000 or by imprisonment in the state prison for not more than 10 years or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Any officer in charge of an elementary or secondary school, college or university or any faculty member or administrative officer of an elementary or secondary school, college or university failing to report violations of this sub section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars.

972 SECTION 28. Section 26 of chapter 218 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the words "fifteen A", in line 18, the following words:-, 15D(a), 974 15E(a)

975 SECTION 29. Section 26 of chapter 218 is hereby further amended by inserting after the 976 words "sixty-six," in line 21, the following words:- section 10(p) of chapter 269

977 SECTION 30. Chapter 265 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after 978 section 13M the following section:-

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Section 13N. Upon entry of a conviction for any misdemeanor offense that has as an 980 element the use or attempted use of physical force, or the threatened use of a deadly weapon, the court shall determine whether the victim or intended victim was a family or household member 982 of the defendant, as defined in section 1 of chapter 209A. If the victim or intended victim was a family or household member of the defendant, the court shall enter the offense, the chapter, 984 section and subsection, if any, of the offense, and the relationship of the defendant to the victim 985 upon the record, and this entry shall be forwarded to the department of criminal justice 986 information services for inclusion in the criminal justice information system and for the purpose of providing the Attorney General of the United States with information required or permitted 987 988 under federal law to be included in the National Instant Criminal Background Check System or any successor system maintained for the purpose of conducting background checks for firearms sales or licensing.

SECTION 31. Chapter 265 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after section 15C the following sections:-

Section 15D. (a) Whoever commits an assault and battery upon another by means of a 994 firearm, large capacity weapon, rifle, shotgun, sawed-off shotgun, machine gun or assault weapon as defined in section 121 of chapter 140 shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for not more than 15 years or by imprisonment in the house of correction for not more than  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years, or by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

- (b) Any person convicted of violating subsection (a) after 1 or more prior convictions under subsection (a), section 15E, or a law of another jurisdiction that necessarily includes the elements of subsection (a) or section 15E shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for not less than 3 years nor more than 20 years. The sentence imposed shall not be reduced to 1002 less than a term of 3 years imprisonment, nor suspended, nor shall a person sentenced under this subsection be eligible for probation, parole, work release or furlough, or receive any deduction from the sentence for good conduct, until having served 3 years of the sentence; provided, 1005 however, that the commissioner of correction may, on the recommendation of the warden, 1006 superintendent, or other person in charge of a correctional institution, grant to an offender 1007 committed under this subsection a temporary release in the custody of an officer of such institution for the following purposes only: to attend the funeral of a relative; to visit a critically ill relative; or to obtain emergency medical or psychiatric service unavailable at said institution.
  - (c) Prosecutions commenced under this section shall not be suspended, continued without a finding or placed on file. A sentence imposed under this section shall begin from and after the

1012 expiration of any sentence imposed under section 10(a), 10(c), 10(d), 10(h), 10(m) or 10(n) of chapter 269 arising out of the same incident.

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Section 15E. (a) Whoever commits an assault upon another by means of a firearm, large 1015 capacity weapon, rifle, shotgun, sawed-off shotgun, machine gun or assault weapon as defined in section 121 of chapter 140 shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for not more than 10 years or by imprisonment in the house of correction for not more than  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years, or by a fine of not more than \$5,000, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

- (b) Any person convicted of violating subsection (a) after 1 or more prior convictions 1020 under subsection (a), section 15D, or a law of another jurisdiction that necessarily includes the elements of subsection (a) or section 15D shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison 1022 for not less than 2 years nor more than 15 years. The sentence imposed shall not be reduced to less than a term of 2 years imprisonment, nor suspended, nor shall a person sentenced under this 1024 subsection be eligible for probation, parole, work release or furlough, or receive any deduction 1025 from the sentence for good conduct, until having served 2 years of the sentence; provided, 1026 however, that the commissioner of correction may, on the recommendation of the warden, 1027 superintendent, or other person in charge of a correctional institution, grant to an offender 1028 committed under this subsection a temporary release in the custody of an officer of such 1029 institution for the following purposes only: to attend the funeral of a relative; to visit a critically 1030 ill relative; or to obtain emergency medical or psychiatric service unavailable at said institution.
- (c) Prosecutions commenced under this section shall not be suspended, continued without 1032 a finding or placed on file. A sentence imposed under this section shall begin from and after the 1033 expiration of any sentence imposed under section 10(a), 10(c), 10(d), 10(h), 10(m) or 10(n) of 1034 chapter 269 arising out of the same incident.
- 1035 SECTION 32. Chapter 265 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by 1036 inserting after section 18C the following section:-
- Section 18D. Whoever, while in the commission or attempted commission of a misdemeanor that has as an element the use, attempted use, or threatened use of physical force against the person of another, has in his possession or under his control a firearm, rifle, or shotgun, shall, in addition to the penalty for such offense, be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for not more than 10 years, or in the house of correction for not more than 2 ½ years, or by a fine of not more than \$5,000, or by both such fine and imprisonment. 1042
- SECTION 33. Section 10 of chapter 269 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby 1043 amended by striking out, in lines 103-107, the words "seven years; for a third such offense, by imprisonment in the state prison for not less than seven years nor more than ten years; and for a fourth such offense, by imprisonment in the state prison for not less than ten years nor more than fifteen years", and inserting in place thereof the following words:- 10 years; for a third such 1047 1048 offense, by imprisonment in the state prison for not less than 10 years nor more than 15 years;

1049 1050	and for a fourth such offense, by imprisonment in the state prison for not less than 15 years nor more than 20 years.