As Introduced

135th General Assembly

Regular Session 2023-2024 H. B. No. 346

Representative Dell'Aquila

Cosponsors: Representatives Somani, Mohamed, Brewer, Brennan, Russo, McNally, Forhan, Miller, A., Grim

A BILL

To amend section 2923.11 and to enact section	1
2923.191 of the Revised Code to create the	2
offense of unlawful manufacture, purchase, or	3
sale of an auto sear.	4

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 2923.11 be amended and section	5
2923.191 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:	6
Sec. 2923.11. As used in sections 2923.11 to 2923.24 of	7
the Revised Code:	8
(A) "Deadly weapon" means any instrument, device, or thing	9
capable of inflicting death, and designed or specially adapted	10
for use as a weapon, or possessed, carried, or used as a weapon.	11
(B)(1) "Firearm" means any deadly weapon capable of	12
expelling or propelling one or more projectiles by the action of	13
an explosive or combustible propellant. "Firearm" includes an	14
unloaded firearm, and any firearm that is inoperable but that	15
can readily be rendered operable.	16

(2) When determining whether a firearm is capable of
expelling or propelling one or more projectiles by the action of
an explosive or combustible propellant, the trier of fact may
rely upon circumstantial evidence, including, but not limited
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to, the representations and actions of the individual exercising
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control over the firearm.

(C) "Handgun" means any of the following:

(1) Any firearm that has a short stock and is designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand;

(2) Any combination of parts from which a firearm of a26type described in division (C) (1) of this section can be27assembled.28

(D) "Semi-automatic firearm" means any firearm designed or specially adapted to fire a single cartridge and automatically chamber a succeeding cartridge ready to fire, with a single function of the trigger.

(E) "Automatic firearm" means any firearm designed or
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specially adapted to fire a succession of cartridges with a
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single function of the trigger.
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(F) "Sawed-off firearm" means a shotgun with a barrel less 36 than eighteen inches long, or a rifle with a barrel less than 37 sixteen inches long, or a shotgun or rifle less than twenty-six 38 inches long overall. "Sawed-off firearm" does not include any 39 firearm with an overall length of at least twenty-six inches 40 that is approved for sale by the federal bureau of alcohol, 41 tobacco, firearms, and explosives under the "Gun Control Act of 42 1968," 82 Stat. 1213, 18 U.S.C. 921(a)(3), but that is found by 43 the bureau not to be regulated under the "National Firearms 44 Act," 68A Stat. 725 (1934), 26 U.S.C. 5845(a). 45

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(G) "Zip-gun" means any of the following:	46
(1) Any firearm of crude and extemporized manufacture;	47
(2) Any device, including without limitation a starter's	48
pistol, that is not designed as a firearm, but that is specially	49
adapted for use as a firearm;	50
(3) Any industrial tool, signalling device, or safety	51
device, that is not designed as a firearm, but that as designed	52
is capable of use as such, when possessed, carried, or used as a	53
firearm.	54
(H) "Explosive device" means any device designed or	55
specially adapted to cause physical harm to persons or property	56
by means of an explosion, and consisting of an explosive	57
substance or agency and a means to detonate it. "Explosive	58
device" includes without limitation any bomb, any explosive	59
demolition device, any blasting cap or detonator containing an	60
explosive charge, and any pressure vessel that has been	61
knowingly tampered with or arranged so as to explode.	62
(I) "Incendiary device" means any firebomb, and any device	63
designed or specially adapted to cause physical harm to persons	64
or property by means of fire, and consisting of an incendiary	65
substance or agency and a means to ignite it.	66
(J) "Ballistic knife" means a knife with a detachable	67
blade that is propelled by a spring-operated mechanism.	68
(K) "Dangerous ordnance" means any of the following,	69
except as provided in division (L) of this section:	70
(1) Any automatic or sawed-off firearm, zip-gun, or	71
ballistic knife;	72
(2) Any explosive device or incendiary device;	73

74 (3) Nitroglycerin, nitrocellulose, nitrostarch, PETN, cyclonite, TNT, picric acid, and other high explosives; amatol, 75 tritonal, tetrytol, pentolite, pecretol, cyclotol, and other 76 high explosive compositions; plastic explosives; dynamite, 77 blasting gelatin, gelatin dynamite, sensitized ammonium nitrate, 78 liquid-oxygen blasting explosives, blasting powder, and other 79 blasting agents; and any other explosive substance having 80 sufficient brisance or power to be particularly suitable for use 81 as a military explosive, or for use in mining, quarrying, 82 excavating, or demolitions; 83 (4) Any firearm, rocket launcher, mortar, artillery piece, 84 grenade, mine, bomb, torpedo, or similar weapon, designed and 85 manufactured for military purposes, and the ammunition for that 86 weapon; 87 (5) Any firearm muffler or suppressor; 88 (6) Any part or combination of parts that is intended by 89 the owner for use in converting any firearm or other device into 90 a dangerous ordnance, including an auto sear. 91 (L) "Dangerous ordnance" does not include any of the 92 93 following: (1) Any firearm, including a military weapon and the 94 ammunition for that weapon, and regardless of its actual age, 95 that employs a percussion cap or other obsolete ignition system, 96 or that is designed and safe for use only with black powder; 97 (2) Any pistol, rifle, or shotgun, designed or suitable 98 for sporting purposes, including a military weapon as issued or 99 as modified, and the ammunition for that weapon, unless the 100

(3) Any cannon or other artillery piece that, regardless 102

firearm is an automatic or sawed-off firearm;

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of its actual age, is of a type in accepted use prior to 1887,103has no mechanical, hydraulic, pneumatic, or other system for104absorbing recoil and returning the tube into battery without105displacing the carriage, and is designed and safe for use only106with black powder;107

(4) Black powder, priming quills, and percussion caps
possessed and lawfully used to fire a cannon of a type defined
in division (L) (3) of this section during displays,
celebrations, organized matches or shoots, and target practice,
and smokeless and black powder, primers, and percussion caps
possessed and lawfully used as a propellant or ignition device
in small-arms or small-arms ammunition;

(5) Dangerous ordnance that is inoperable or inert and
cannot readily be rendered operable or activated, and that is
kept as a trophy, souvenir, curio, or museum piece;
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(6) Any device that is expressly excepted from the
definition of a destructive device pursuant to the "Gun Control
Act of 1968," 82 Stat. 1213, 18 U.S.C. 921(a)(4), as amended,
and regulations issued under that act;

(7) Any firearm with an overall length of at least twenty-122 six inches that is approved for sale by the federal bureau of 123 alcohol, tobacco, firearms, and explosives under the "Gun 124 Control Act of 1968," 82 Stat. 1213, 18 U.S.C. 921(a)(3), but 125 that is found by the bureau not to be regulated under the 126 "National Firearms Act," 68A Stat. 725 (1934), 26 U.S.C. 127 5845(a).

(M) "Explosive" means any chemical compound, mixture, or 129
device, the primary or common purpose of which is to function by 130
explosion. "Explosive" includes all materials that have been 131

classified as division 1.1, division 1.2, division 1.3, or 132 division 1.4 explosives by the United States department of 133 transportation in its regulations and includes, but is not 134 limited to, dynamite, black powder, pellet powders, initiating 135 explosives, blasting caps, electric blasting caps, safety fuses, 136 fuse igniters, squibs, cordeau detonant fuses, instantaneous 137 fuses, and igniter cords and igniters. "Explosive" does not 138 include "fireworks," as defined in section 3743.01 of the 139 Revised Code, or any substance or material otherwise meeting the 140 definition of explosive set forth in this section that is 141 manufactured, sold, possessed, transported, stored, or used in 142 any activity described in section 3743.80 of the Revised Code, 143 provided the activity is conducted in accordance with all 144 applicable laws, rules, and regulations, including, but not 145 limited to, the provisions of section 3743.80 of the Revised 146 Code and the rules of the fire marshal adopted pursuant to 147 section 3737.82 of the Revised Code. 148

(N) (1) "Concealed handgun license" or "license to carry a 149 concealed handgun" means, subject to division (N) (2) of this 150 section, a license or temporary emergency license to carry a 151 concealed handgun issued under section 2923.125 or 2923.1213 of 152 the Revised Code or a license to carry a concealed handgun 153 issued by another state with which the attorney general has 154 entered into a reciprocity agreement under section 109.69 of the 155 Revised Code. 156

(2) A reference in any provision of the Revised Code to a
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issued under section 2923.1213 of the Revised Code, a license to 163 carry a concealed handgun issued under section 2923.1213 of the 164 Revised Code, or a license to carry a concealed handgun on a 165 temporary emergency basis means only a license of the type that 166 is specified in section 2923.1213 of the Revised Code. A 167 reference in any provision of the Revised Code to a concealed 168 handgun license issued by another state or a license to carry a 169 concealed handgun issued by another state means only a license 170 issued by another state with which the attorney general has 171 entered into a reciprocity agreement under section 109.69 of the 172 Revised Code. 173

(0) "Valid concealed handgun license" or "valid license to 174 carry a concealed handgun" means a concealed handgun license 175 that is currently valid, that is not under a suspension under 176 division (A)(1) of section 2923.128 of the Revised Code, under 177 section 2923.1213 of the Revised Code, or under a suspension 178 provision of the state other than this state in which the 179 license was issued, and that has not been revoked under division 180 (B) (1) of section 2923.128 of the Revised Code, under section 181 2923.1213 of the Revised Code, or under a revocation provision 182 of the state other than this state in which the license was 183 issued. 184

(P) "Misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for a term 185exceeding one year" does not include any of the following: 186

(1) Any federal or state offense pertaining to antitrust
violations, unfair trade practices, restraints of trade, or
other similar offenses relating to the regulation of business
practices;

(2) Any misdemeanor offense punishable by a term of191imprisonment of two years or less.192

(Q) "Alien registration number" means the number issued by 193 the United States citizenship and immigration services agency 194 that is located on the alien's permanent resident card and may 195 also be commonly referred to as the "USCIS number" or the "alien 196 number." 197 (R) "Active duty" has the same meaning as defined in 10 198 U.S.C. 101. 199 (S) "Auto sear" means any part or combination of parts 200 that is designed to convert a weapon to automatically discharge 201 202 more than one round without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. 203 Sec. 2923.191. (A) No person shall knowingly manufacture, 204 purchase, sell, transfer, distribute, or import an auto sear. 205 (B) Division (A) of this section does not apply to any of 206 the following: 207 (1) Officers, agents, or employees of this or any other 208 state or the United States, members of the armed forces of the 209 United States or the organized militia of this or any other 210 state, and law enforcement officers, to the extent that any such 211 person is authorized to manufacture, purchase, sell, transfer, 212 distribute, or import auto sears and is acting within the scope 213 of the person's duties; 214 (2) Importers, manufacturers, and dealers having a license 215 to deal in firearms or their ammunition, issued and in effect 216 pursuant to the "Gun Control Act of 1968," 18 U.S.C. 923, as 217 amended or reenacted, with respect to auto sears lawfully 218 manufactured, purchased, sold, transferred, distributed, or 219 imported under the laws of this state and applicable federal 220 221 law;

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(3) Carriers, warehouses, and others engaged in the	222
business of transporting or storing goods for hire, with respect	223
to auto sears lawfully transported or stored in the usual course	224
of their business and in compliance with the laws of this state	225
and applicable federal law;	226
(4) The holders of a license or temporary permit issued	227
and in effect pursuant to section 2923.18 of the Revised Code,	228
with respect to auto sears lawfully purchased, sold,	229
transferred, distributed, or imported for the purposes and in	230
the manner specified in such license or permit.	231
(C) Whoever violates division (A) of this section is	232
guilty of unlawful manufacture, purchase, or sale of an auto	233
sear, a felony of the fifth degree.	234
Section 2. That existing section 2923.11 of the Revised	235
Code is hereby repealed.	236

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