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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 837 Session of  
2025

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INTRODUCED BY SHUSTERMAN, HILL-EVANS, KINKEAD, SANCHEZ,  
HANBIDGE, PIELLI, CEPEDA-FREYTIZ, SCHLOSSBERG, KHAN, DALEY,  
DONAHUE, KENYATTA, BOYD AND CURRY, MARCH 10, 2025

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, MARCH 10, 2025

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, in firearms and other dangerous  
3 articles, providing for limit on handgun purchases; and  
4 establishing the Violence Prevention Account.

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

7 Section 1. Title 18 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
8 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

9 § 6111.6. Limit on handgun purchases.

10 (a) Purchase of handgun.--No person may purchase more than  
11 one handgun in this Commonwealth within a 30-day period.

12 (b) Sale of handgun.--No person may sell or cause to be sold  
13 to a person in this Commonwealth more than one handgun within a  
14 30-day period.

15 (c) Exceptions.--This section shall not apply to the  
16 following:

17 (1) A licensed firearm dealer.

18 (2) A licensed firearm collector.

1           (3) A law enforcement agency or an agency authorized to  
2 perform law enforcement duties.

3           (4) State and local correctional facilities.

4           (5) A private security company licensed to do business  
5 within this Commonwealth.

6           (6) The purchase or sale of antique firearms.

7           (7) A person whose handgun is stolen or irretrievably  
8 lost if:

9           (i) the person provides the seller with an official  
10 copy of the police report of the lost or stolen handgun,  
11 or a summary of the report on a form provided by the  
12 Pennsylvania State Police;

13           (ii) the police report or summary contains the name  
14 and address of the handgun owner, the description of the  
15 handgun, the location of the loss or theft, the date of  
16 the loss or theft and the date the loss or theft was  
17 reported to the law enforcement agency;

18           (iii) the date of the loss or theft as reflected on  
19 the police report or summary occurred within 30 days of  
20 the person's attempt to replace the handgun; and

21           (iv) the seller attaches an official copy of the  
22 police report or summary of the report to the original  
23 sales receipt or other document evidencing the original  
24 sale and retains the sales receipt or other document for  
25 the period prescribed by regulation of the Pennsylvania  
26 State Police.

27 (d) Grading.--

28           (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), a person that  
29 is convicted of violating subsection (a) or (b) commits a  
30 misdemeanor of the third degree.

1           (2) A person that, after being sentenced under paragraph  
2           (1), is convicted of violating subsection (a) or (b) commits  
3           a felony of the third degree.

4           (e) Disposition of fines collected.--A court imposing and  
5           collecting a fine for a violation of subsection (a) or (b) shall  
6           transfer the fines collected to the State Treasurer for deposit  
7           into the account.

8           (f) Violence Prevention Account.--The Violence Prevention  
9           Account is established within the General Fund as a nonlapsing,  
10           restricted receipt account. Money in the account is appropriated  
11           on a continuing basis to the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime  
12           and Delinquency exclusively for purposes of violence prevention,  
13           including youth education and activities designed to prevent  
14           violence and grants to law enforcement agencies for equipment  
15           and training designed to prevent gun-related injuries.

16           (g) Notice.--A seller shall notify each prospective  
17           purchaser that the purchase of more than one handgun in a 30-day  
18           period is prohibited under this section and of the applicable  
19           penalties.

20           (h) Handgun purchase history check.--In addition to any  
21           other duty prescribed by this section, a seller of a handgun  
22           shall request the Pennsylvania State Police to conduct a handgun  
23           purchase history check to investigate whether the prospective  
24           handgun purchaser is in compliance with this section. A handgun  
25           purchase history check shall be conducted in accordance with the  
26           procedures governing other background checks under this  
27           subchapter. A handgun purchase history check shall be conducted  
28           at the same time any criminal history, juvenile delinquency or  
29           mental health records check is required for a firearm purchase  
30           under this subchapter. Information related to a handgun purchase

1 provided to the Pennsylvania State Police by a seller may be  
2 retained by the Pennsylvania State Police as necessary to  
3 monitor compliance with this section.

4 (i) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following  
5 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this  
6 subsection unless the content clearly indicates otherwise:

7 "Account." The Violence Prevention Account established under  
8 subsection (f).

9 "Handgun." Either of the following:

10 (1) A firearm that has a short stock and is designed to  
11 be held and fired by the use of a single hand.

12 (2) Any combination of parts from which a firearm  
13 described under paragraph (1) can be assembled.

14 "Licensed firearm collector." A person who collects firearms  
15 and is licensed as a collector under 18 U.S.C. § 923 (relating  
16 to licensing).

17 "Licensed firearm dealer." A person who is licensed as a  
18 firearm dealer under 18 U.S.C. § 923.

19 "Purchase." Does not include the exchange or replacement of  
20 a handgun by a seller for a handgun purchased from the seller by  
21 the same person seeking the exchange or replacement within the  
22 30-day period immediately preceding the date of exchange or  
23 replacement.

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