



**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:** No

**VETO MESSAGE:** No

**GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:** Yes

**FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:**

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**REPORTS:** No

**HEARINGS:** No

**NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:** Yes

Katie Sobko, NorthJersey.com | USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY, 'NJ tightens gun laws after high court ruling - New bills follow weekend of nationwide gun violence', Burlington County Times (online), 6 Jul 2022 A1

By MIKE CATALINI, Associated Press, 'Murphy signs 7 new bills aimed at tightening NJ gun laws', Associated Press State Wire: New Jersey (online), 5 Jul 2022

end

P.L. 2022, CHAPTER 58, *approved July 5, 2022*  
Assembly, No. 4370 (*First Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning firearms and amending N.J.S.2C:58-3.

2

3 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
4 of New Jersey:

5

6 1. N.J.S.2C:58-3 is amended to read as follows:

7 2C:58-3. a. Permit to purchase a handgun.

8 (1) No person shall sell, give, transfer, assign or otherwise dispose  
9 of, nor receive, purchase, or otherwise acquire a handgun unless the  
10 purchaser, assignee, donee, receiver or holder is licensed as a dealer  
11 under this chapter or has first secured a permit to purchase a handgun  
12 as provided by this section.

13 (2) A person who is not a licensed retail dealer and sells, gives,  
14 transfers, assigns, or otherwise disposes of, or receives, purchases or  
15 otherwise acquires a handgun pursuant to this section shall conduct the  
16 transaction through a licensed retail dealer.

17 The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply if the transaction  
18 is:

19 (a) between members of an immediate family as defined in  
20 subsection n. of this section;

21 (b) between law enforcement officers;

22 (c) between collectors of firearms or ammunition as curios or relics  
23 as defined in Title 18, U.S.C. section 921 (a) (13) who have in their  
24 possession a valid Collector of Curios and Relics License issued by the  
25 Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives; or

26 (d) a temporary transfer pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1992, c.74  
27 (C.2C:58-3.1) or section 1 of P.L.1997, c.375 (C.2C:58-3.2).

28 (3) Prior to a transaction conducted pursuant to this subsection, the  
29 retail dealer shall complete a National Instant Criminal Background  
30 Check of the person acquiring the handgun. In addition:

31 (a) the retail dealer shall submit to the Superintendent of State  
32 Police, on a form approved by the superintendent, information  
33 identifying and confirming the background check;

34 (b) every retail dealer shall maintain a record of transactions  
35 conducted pursuant to this subsection, which shall be maintained at the  
36 address displayed on the retail dealer's license for inspection by a law  
37 enforcement officer during reasonable hours;

38 (c) a retail dealer may charge a fee for a transaction conducted  
39 pursuant to this subsection; and

40 (d) any record produced pursuant to this subsection shall not be  
41 considered a public record pursuant to P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et  
42 seq.) or P.L.2001, c.404 (C.47:1A-5 et al.).

43 b. Firearms purchaser identification card.

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is  
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted June 23, 2022.

1 (1) No person shall sell, give, transfer, assign or otherwise dispose  
2 of nor receive, purchase or otherwise acquire an antique cannon or a  
3 rifle or shotgun, other than an antique rifle or shotgun, unless the  
4 purchaser, assignee, donee, receiver or holder is licensed as a dealer  
5 under this chapter or possesses a valid firearms purchaser  
6 identification card, and first exhibits the card to the seller, donor,  
7 transferor or assignor, and unless the purchaser, assignee, donee,  
8 receiver or holder signs a written certification, on a form prescribed by  
9 the superintendent, which shall indicate that he presently complies  
10 with the requirements of subsection c. of this section and shall contain  
11 his name, address and firearms purchaser identification card number or  
12 dealer's registration number. The certification shall be retained by the  
13 seller, as provided in paragraph (4) of subsection a. of N.J.S.2C:58-2,  
14 or, in the case of a person who is not a dealer, it may be filed with the  
15 chief of police of the municipality in which he resides or with the  
16 superintendent.

17 (2) A person who is not a licensed retail dealer and sells, gives,  
18 transfers, assigns, or otherwise disposes of, or receives, purchases or  
19 otherwise acquires an antique cannon or a rifle or shotgun pursuant to  
20 this section shall conduct the transaction through a licensed retail  
21 dealer.

22 The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply if the transaction  
23 is:

24 (a) between members of an immediate family as defined in  
25 subsection n. of this section;

26 (b) between law enforcement officers;

27 (c) between collectors of firearms or ammunition as curios or relics  
28 as defined in Title 18, U.S.C. section 921 (a) (13) who have in their  
29 possession a valid Collector of Curios and Relics License issued by the  
30 Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives; or

31 (d) a temporary transfer pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1992, c.74  
32 (C.2C:58-3.1) and section 1 of P.L.1997, c.375 (C.2C:58-3.2).

33 (3) Prior to a transaction conducted pursuant to this subsection, the  
34 retail dealer shall complete a National Instant Criminal Background  
35 Check of the person acquiring an antique cannon or a rifle or shotgun.

36 In addition:

37 (a) the retail dealer shall submit to the Superintendent of State  
38 Police, on a form approved by the superintendent, information  
39 identifying and confirming the background check;

40 (b) every retail dealer shall maintain a record of transactions  
41 conducted pursuant to this section which shall be maintained at the  
42 address set forth on the retail dealer's license for inspection by a law  
43 enforcement officer during reasonable hours;

44 (c) a retail dealer may charge a fee for a transaction conducted  
45 pursuant to this subsection; and

46 (d) any record produced pursuant to this subsection shall not be  
47 considered a public record pursuant to P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et  
48 seq.) or P.L.2001, c.404 (C.47:1A-5 et al.).

1 c. Who may obtain. No person of good character and good repute  
2 in the community in which he lives, and who is not subject to any of  
3 the disabilities set forth in this section or other sections of this chapter,  
4 shall be denied a permit to purchase a handgun or a firearms purchaser  
5 identification card, except as hereinafter set forth. No handgun  
6 purchase permit or firearms purchaser identification card shall be  
7 issued:

8 (1) To any person who has been convicted of any crime, or a  
9 disorderly persons offense involving an act of domestic violence as  
10 defined in section 3 of P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-19), whether or not  
11 armed with or possessing a weapon at the time of the offense;

12 (2) To any drug-dependent person as defined in section 2 of  
13 P.L.1970, c.226 (C.24:21-2), to any person who is confined for a  
14 mental disorder to a hospital, mental institution or sanitarium, or to  
15 any person who is presently an habitual drunkard;

16 (3) To any person who suffers from a physical defect or disease  
17 which would make it unsafe for him to handle firearms, to any person  
18 who has ever been confined for a mental disorder, or to any alcoholic  
19 unless any of the foregoing persons produces a certificate of a medical  
20 doctor or psychiatrist licensed in New Jersey, or other satisfactory  
21 proof, that he is no longer suffering from that particular disability in a  
22 manner that would interfere with or handicap him in the handling of  
23 firearms; to any person who knowingly falsifies any information on  
24 the application form for a handgun purchase permit or firearms  
25 purchaser identification card;

26 (4) To any person under the age of 18 years for a firearms  
27 purchaser identification card and to any person under the age of 21  
28 years for a permit to purchase a handgun;

29 (5) To any person where the issuance would not be in the interest  
30 of the public health, safety or welfare;

31 (6) To any person who is subject to a restraining order issued  
32 pursuant to the "Prevention of Domestic Violence Act of 1991",  
33 P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-17 et seq.) prohibiting the person from  
34 possessing any firearm;

35 (7) To any person who as a juvenile was adjudicated delinquent for  
36 an offense which, if committed by an adult, would constitute a crime  
37 and the offense involved the unlawful use or possession of a weapon,  
38 explosive or destructive device or is enumerated in subsection d. of  
39 section 2 of P.L.1997, c.117 (C.2C:43-7.2);

40 (8) To any person whose firearm is seized pursuant to the  
41 "Prevention of Domestic Violence Act of 1991", P.L.1991, c.261  
42 (C.2C:25-17 et seq.) and whose firearm has not been returned; or

43 (9) To any person named on the consolidated Terrorist Watchlist  
44 maintained by the Terrorist Screening Center administered by the  
45 Federal Bureau of Investigation;

46 (10) To any person who is subject to a court order prohibiting the  
47 custody, control, ownership, purchase, possession, or receipt of a

1 firearm or ammunition issued pursuant to the "Extreme Risk Protective  
2 Order Act of 2018", P.L.2018, c.35 (C.2C:58-20 et al.); or

3 (11) To any person who is subject to a court order prohibiting the  
4 custody, control, ownership, purchase, possession, or receipt of a  
5 firearm or ammunition issued pursuant to P.L.2021, c.327 (C.2C:12-14  
6 et al.).

7 In order to obtain a permit to purchase a handgun or a firearms  
8 purchaser identification card, the applicant shall demonstrate that,  
9 within four years prior to the date of the application, the applicant  
10 satisfactorily completed a course of instruction approved by the  
11 superintendent in the lawful and safe handling and storage of firearms.  
12 The applicant shall be required to demonstrate completion of a course  
13 of instruction only once prior to obtaining either a firearms purchaser  
14 identification card or the applicant's first permit to purchase a  
15 handgun.

16 The applicant shall not be required to demonstrate completion of a  
17 course of instruction in order to obtain any subsequent permit to  
18 purchase a handgun <sup>1</sup> [or a firearms purchaser identification card] <sup>1</sup> , to  
19 replace an existing firearms purchaser identification card, or to renew  
20 a firearms purchaser identification card.

21 An applicant who is a law enforcement officer who has satisfied  
22 the requirements of subsection j. of N.J.S.2C:39-6, a retired law  
23 enforcement officer who has satisfied the requirements of subsection l.  
24 of N.J.S.2C:39-6, or a veteran who was honorably discharged as a  
25 member of the United States Armed Forces or National Guard who  
26 received substantially equivalent training shall not be required to  
27 complete the course of instruction required pursuant to the provisions  
28 of this subsection.

29 A person who obtained a permit to purchase a handgun or a  
30 firearms purchaser identification card prior to the effective date of  
31 P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall  
32 not be required to complete a course of instruction pursuant to this  
33 subsection.

34 d. Issuance. The chief of police of an organized full-time police  
35 department of the municipality where the applicant resides or the  
36 superintendent, in all other cases, shall upon application, issue to any  
37 person qualified under the provisions of subsection c. of this section a  
38 permit to purchase a handgun or a firearms purchaser identification  
39 card.

40 <sup>1</sup>A firearms purchaser identification card issued following the  
41 effective date of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as  
42 this bill) shall display a color photograph and a thumb print of the card  
43 holder. A person who obtained a firearms purchaser identification card  
44 prior to the effective date of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the  
45 Legislature as this bill) shall not be required to obtain a firearm  
46 purchaser identification card that displays a color photograph and a  
47 thumb print. The superintendent shall establish guidelines as necessary

1 to effectuate the issuance of firearms purchaser identification cards that  
2 display a color photograph and a thumb print of the card holder.<sup>1</sup>

3 Any person aggrieved by the denial of a permit or identification  
4 card may request a hearing in the Superior Court of the county in  
5 which he resides if he is a resident of New Jersey or in the Superior  
6 Court of the county in which his application was filed if he is a  
7 nonresident. The request for a hearing shall be made in writing within  
8 30 days of the denial of the application for a permit or identification  
9 card. The applicant shall serve a copy of his request for a hearing  
10 upon the chief of police of the municipality in which he resides, if he  
11 is a resident of New Jersey, and upon the superintendent in all cases.  
12 The hearing shall be held and a record made thereof within 30 days of  
13 the receipt of the application for a hearing by the judge of the Superior  
14 Court. No formal pleading and no filing fee shall be required as a  
15 preliminary to a hearing. Appeals from the results of a hearing shall  
16 be in accordance with law.

17 e. Applications. Applications for permits to purchase a handgun  
18 and for firearms purchaser identification cards shall be in the form  
19 prescribed by the superintendent and shall set forth the name,  
20 residence, place of business, age, date of birth, occupation, sex and  
21 physical description, including distinguishing physical characteristics,  
22 if any, of the applicant, and shall state whether the applicant is a  
23 citizen, whether he is an alcoholic, habitual drunkard, drug-dependent  
24 person as defined in section 2 of P.L.1970, c.226 (C.24:21-2), whether  
25 he has ever been confined or committed to a mental institution or  
26 hospital for treatment or observation of a mental or psychiatric  
27 condition on a temporary, interim or permanent basis, giving the name  
28 and location of the institution or hospital and the dates of confinement  
29 or commitment, whether he has been attended, treated or observed by  
30 any doctor or psychiatrist or at any hospital or mental institution on an  
31 inpatient or outpatient basis for any mental or psychiatric condition,  
32 giving the name and location of the doctor, psychiatrist, hospital or  
33 institution and the dates of the occurrence, whether he presently or  
34 ever has been a member of any organization which advocates or  
35 approves the commission of acts of force and violence to overthrow  
36 the Government of the United States or of this State, or which seeks to  
37 deny others their rights under the Constitution of either the United  
38 States or the State of New Jersey, whether he has ever been convicted  
39 of a crime or disorderly persons offense, whether the person is subject  
40 to a restraining order issued pursuant to the "Prevention of Domestic  
41 Violence Act of 1991", P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-17 et seq.)  
42 prohibiting the person from possessing any firearm, whether the  
43 person is subject to a protective order issued pursuant to the "Extreme  
44 Risk Protective Order Act of 2018", P.L.2018, c.35 (C.2C:58-20 et  
45 al.), whether the person is subject to a protective order issued pursuant  
46 to P.L.2021, c.327 (C.2C:12-14 et al.) prohibiting the person from  
47 possessing any firearm, and other information as the superintendent  
48 shall deem necessary for the proper enforcement of this chapter. For

1 the purpose of complying with this subsection, the applicant shall  
2 waive any statutory or other right of confidentiality relating to  
3 institutional confinement. The application shall be signed by the  
4 applicant and shall contain as references the names and addresses of  
5 two reputable citizens personally acquainted with him.

6 Application blanks shall be obtainable from the superintendent,  
7 from any other officer authorized to grant a permit or identification  
8 card, and from licensed retail dealers.

9 The chief police officer or the superintendent shall obtain the  
10 fingerprints of the applicant and shall have them compared with any  
11 and all records of fingerprints in the municipality and county in which  
12 the applicant resides and also the records of the State Bureau of  
13 Identification and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, provided that an  
14 applicant for a handgun purchase permit who possesses a valid  
15 firearms purchaser identification card, or who has previously obtained  
16 a handgun purchase permit from the same licensing authority for  
17 which he was previously fingerprinted, and who provides other  
18 reasonably satisfactory proof of his identity, need not be fingerprinted  
19 again; however, the chief police officer or the superintendent shall  
20 proceed to investigate the application to determine whether or not the  
21 applicant has become subject to any of the disabilities set forth in this  
22 chapter.

23 f. Granting of permit or identification card; fee; term; renewal;  
24 revocation. The application for the permit to purchase a handgun  
25 together with a fee of \$2, or the application for the firearms  
26 purchaser identification card together with a fee of \$5, shall be  
27 delivered or forwarded to the licensing authority who shall  
28 investigate the same and, unless good cause for the denial thereof  
29 appears, shall grant the permit or the identification card, or both, if  
30 application has been made therefor, within 30 days from the date of  
31 receipt of the application for residents of this State and within 45  
32 days for nonresident applicants. A permit to purchase a handgun  
33 shall be valid for a period of 90 days from the date of issuance and  
34 may be renewed by the issuing authority for good cause for an  
35 additional 90 days. A firearms purchaser identification card issued  
36 or renewed after the effective date of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending  
37 before the Legislature as this bill) shall **be valid until such time as**  
38 **expire during the <sup>1</sup>fourth<sup>1</sup> tenth<sup>1</sup> calendar year following its date**  
39 **of issuance and on the same calendar day as the person's date of**  
40 **birth.**

41 <sup>1</sup>A firearms purchaser identification card issued prior to the  
42 effective date of P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this  
43 bill) shall expire during the fourth calendar year following the  
44 effective date of P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this  
45 bill) and on the same calendar day as the person's date of birth.]<sup>1</sup>

46 If the date of birth of the firearms purchaser identification card  
47 holder does not correspond to a calendar day of the <sup>1</sup>fourth<sup>1</sup> tenth<sup>1</sup>



1 calendar year, the card shall expire on the last day of the birth month  
2 of the card holder.

3 A firearms purchaser identification card issued pursuant to this  
4 section may be renewed upon filing of a renewal application and  
5 payment of the required fee, provided that the holder is not subject to  
6 any of the disabilities set forth in subsection c. of this section and  
7 complies with all other applicable requirements as set forth in statute  
8 and regulation.

9 <sup>1</sup>~~【The】~~ A firearms purchaser identification card issued prior to  
10 the effective date of P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as  
11 this bill) shall not expire.

12 A<sup>1</sup> firearms purchaser identification card shall be void if the  
13 holder becomes subject to any of the disabilities set forth in  
14 subsection c. of this section, whereupon the card shall <sup>1</sup>【be void  
15 and shall】<sup>1</sup> be returned within five days by the holder to the  
16 superintendent, who shall then advise the licensing authority.  
17 Failure of the holder to return the firearms purchaser identification  
18 card to the superintendent within the five days shall be an offense  
19 under subsection a. of N.J.S.2C:39-10. Any firearms purchaser  
20 identification card may be revoked by the Superior Court of the  
21 county wherein the card was issued, after hearing upon notice, upon  
22 a finding that the holder thereof no longer qualifies for the issuance  
23 of the permit. The county prosecutor of any county, the chief police  
24 officer of any municipality or any citizen may apply to the court at  
25 any time for the revocation of the card.

26 There shall be no conditions or requirements added to the form  
27 or content of the application, or required by the licensing authority  
28 for the issuance or renewal of a permit or identification card, other  
29 than those that are specifically set forth in this chapter.

30 g. Disposition of fees. All fees for permits shall be paid to the  
31 State Treasury if the permit is issued by the superintendent, to the  
32 municipality if issued by the chief of police, and to the county  
33 treasurer if issued by the judge of the Superior Court.

34 h. Form of permit; quadruplicate; disposition of copies. The  
35 permit shall be in the form prescribed by the superintendent and  
36 shall be issued to the applicant in quadruplicate. Prior to the time  
37 he receives the handgun from the seller, the applicant shall deliver  
38 to the seller the permit in quadruplicate and the seller shall  
39 complete all of the information required on the form. Within five  
40 days of the date of the sale, the seller shall forward the original  
41 copy to the superintendent and the second copy to the chief of  
42 police of the municipality in which the purchaser resides, except  
43 that in a municipality having no chief of police, the copy shall be  
44 forwarded to the superintendent. The third copy shall then be  
45 returned to the purchaser with the pistol or revolver and the fourth  
46 copy shall be kept by the seller as a permanent record.

47 i. Restriction on number of firearms person may purchase.  
48 Only one handgun shall be purchased or delivered on each permit

1 and no more than one handgun shall be purchased within any 30-  
2 day period, but this limitation shall not apply to:

3 (1) a federal, State, or local law enforcement officer or agency  
4 purchasing handguns for use by officers in the actual performance  
5 of their law enforcement duties;

6 (2) a collector of handguns as curios or relics as defined in Title  
7 18, United States Code, section 921 (a) (13) who has in his  
8 possession a valid Collector of Curios and Relics License issued by  
9 the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives;

10 (3) transfers of handguns among licensed retail dealers,  
11 registered wholesale dealers and registered manufacturers;

12 (4) transfers of handguns from any person to a licensed retail  
13 dealer or a registered wholesale dealer or registered manufacturer;

14 (5) any transaction where the person has purchased a handgun  
15 from a licensed retail dealer and has returned that handgun to the  
16 dealer in exchange for another handgun within 30 days of the  
17 original transaction, provided the retail dealer reports the exchange  
18 transaction to the superintendent; or

19 (6) any transaction where the superintendent issues an exemption  
20 from the prohibition in this subsection pursuant to the provisions of  
21 section 4 of P.L.2009, c.186 (C.2C:58-3.4).

22 The provisions of this subsection shall not be construed to afford  
23 or authorize any other exemption from the regulatory provisions  
24 governing firearms set forth in chapter 39 and chapter 58 of Title  
25 2C of the New Jersey Statutes;

26 A person shall not be restricted as to the number of rifles or  
27 shotguns he may purchase, provided he possesses a valid firearms  
28 purchaser identification card and provided further that he signs the  
29 certification required in subsection b. of this section for each  
30 transaction.

31 j. Firearms passing to heirs or legatees. Notwithstanding any  
32 other provision of this section concerning the transfer, receipt or  
33 acquisition of a firearm, a permit to purchase or a firearms purchaser  
34 identification card shall not be required for the passing of a firearm  
35 upon the death of an owner thereof to his heir or legatee, whether the  
36 same be by testamentary bequest or by the laws of intestacy. The  
37 person who shall so receive, or acquire the firearm shall, however, be  
38 subject to all other provisions of this chapter. If the heir or legatee of  
39 the firearm does not qualify to possess or carry it, he may retain  
40 ownership of the firearm for the purpose of sale for a period not  
41 exceeding 180 days, or for a further limited period as may be approved  
42 by the chief law enforcement officer of the municipality in which the  
43 heir or legatee resides or the superintendent, provided that the firearm  
44 is in the custody of the chief law enforcement officer of the  
45 municipality or the superintendent during that period.

46 k. Sawed-off shotguns. Nothing in this section shall be construed  
47 to authorize the purchase or possession of any sawed-off shotgun.

1       1. Nothing in this section and in N.J.S.2C:58-2 shall apply to the  
2 sale or purchase of a visual distress signalling device approved by the  
3 United States Coast Guard, solely for possession on a private or  
4 commercial aircraft or any boat; provided, however, that no person  
5 under the age of 18 years shall purchase nor shall any person sell to a  
6 person under the age of 18 years a visual distress signalling device.

7       m. The provisions of subsections a. and b. of this section and  
8 paragraphs (4) and (5) of subsection a. of N.J.S.2C:58-2 shall not  
9 apply to the purchase of firearms by a law enforcement agency for use  
10 by law enforcement officers in the actual performance of the current or  
11 former judge's duties, which purchase may be made directly from a  
12 manufacturer or from a licensed dealer located in this State or any  
13 other state.

14       n. For the purposes of this section, "immediate family" means a  
15 spouse, domestic partner as defined in section 3 of P.L.2003, c.246  
16 (C.26:8A-3), partner in a civil union couple as defined in section 2 of  
17 P.L.2006, c.103 (C.37:1-29), parent, stepparent, grandparent, sibling,  
18 stepsibling, child, stepchild, and grandchild, as related by blood or by  
19 law.

20 (cf: P.L.2021, c.327, s.6)

21

22       2. This act shall take effect immediately.

23

24

25

26

27       Requires training for issuance of firearms purchaser  
28 identification card and permit to purchase handgun under certain  
29 circumstances; provide firearms purchaser identification card  
30 include photograph and thumb print and remain valid for ten years.

# ASSEMBLY, No. 4370

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 20, 2022

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON**

**District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)**

**Assemblyman LOUIS D. GREENWALD**

**District 6 (Burlington and Camden)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman McKeon**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires training prior to issuance of firearms purchaser identification card and permit to purchase handgun under certain circumstances; provides that firearms purchaser identification card is valid for four years.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/20/2022)

A4370 REYNOLDS-JACKSON, GREENWALD

2

1 AN ACT concerning firearms and amending N.J.S.2C:58-3.

2

3 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
4 of New Jersey:

5

6 1. N.J.S.2C:58-3 is amended to read as follows:

7 2C:58-3. a. Permit to purchase a handgun.

8 (1) No person shall sell, give, transfer, assign or otherwise dispose  
9 of, nor receive, purchase, or otherwise acquire a handgun unless the  
10 purchaser, assignee, donee, receiver or holder is licensed as a dealer  
11 under this chapter or has first secured a permit to purchase a handgun  
12 as provided by this section.

13 (2) A person who is not a licensed retail dealer and sells, gives,  
14 transfers, assigns, or otherwise disposes of, or receives, purchases or  
15 otherwise acquires a handgun pursuant to this section shall conduct  
16 the transaction through a licensed retail dealer.

17 The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply if the transaction  
18 is:

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20 subsection n. of this section;

21 (b) between law enforcement officers;

22 (c) between collectors of firearms or ammunition as curios or  
23 relics as defined in Title 18, U.S.C. section 921 (a) (13) who have in  
24 their possession a valid Collector of Curios and Relics License issued  
25 by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives; or

26 (d) a temporary transfer pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1992, c.74  
27 (C.2C:58-3.1) or section 1 of P.L.1997, c.375 (C.2C:58-3.2).

28 (3) Prior to a transaction conducted pursuant to this subsection,  
29 the retail dealer shall complete a National Instant Criminal  
30 Background Check of the person acquiring the handgun. In addition:

31 (a) the retail dealer shall submit to the Superintendent of State  
32 Police, on a form approved by the superintendent, information  
33 identifying and confirming the background check;

34 (b) every retail dealer shall maintain a record of transactions  
35 conducted pursuant to this subsection, which shall be maintained at  
36 the address displayed on the retail dealer's license for inspection by  
37 a law enforcement officer during reasonable hours;

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39 pursuant to this subsection; and

40 (d) any record produced pursuant to this subsection shall not be  
41 considered a public record pursuant to P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et  
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43 b. Firearms purchaser identification card.

44 (1) No person shall sell, give, transfer, assign or otherwise dispose  
45 of nor receive, purchase or otherwise acquire an antique cannon or a

**EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**

1 rifle or shotgun, other than an antique rifle or shotgun, unless the  
2 purchaser, assignee, donee, receiver or holder is licensed as a dealer  
3 under this chapter or possesses a valid firearms purchaser  
4 identification card, and first exhibits the card to the seller, donor,  
5 transferor or assignor, and unless the purchaser, assignee, donee,  
6 receiver or holder signs a written certification, on a form prescribed  
7 by the superintendent, which shall indicate that he presently complies  
8 with the requirements of subsection c. of this section and shall  
9 contain his name, address and firearms purchaser identification card  
10 number or dealer's registration number. The certification shall be  
11 retained by the seller, as provided in paragraph (4) of subsection a.  
12 of N.J.S.2C:58-2, or, in the case of a person who is not a dealer, it  
13 may be filed with the chief of police of the municipality in which he  
14 resides or with the superintendent.

15 (2) A person who is not a licensed retail dealer and sells, gives,  
16 transfers, assigns, or otherwise disposes of, or receives, purchases or  
17 otherwise acquires an antique cannon or a rifle or shotgun pursuant  
18 to this section shall conduct the transaction through a licensed retail  
19 dealer.

20 The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply if the transaction  
21 is:

22 (a) between members of an immediate family as defined in  
23 subsection n. of this section;

24 (b) between law enforcement officers;

25 (c) between collectors of firearms or ammunition as curios or  
26 relics as defined in Title 18, U.S.C. section 921 (a) (13) who have in  
27 their possession a valid Collector of Curios and Relics License issued  
28 by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives; or

29 (d) a temporary transfer pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1992, c.74  
30 (C.2C:58-3.1) and section 1 of P.L.1997, c.375 (C.2C:58-3.2).

31 (3) Prior to a transaction conducted pursuant to this subsection,  
32 the retail dealer shall complete a National Instant Criminal  
33 Background Check of the person acquiring an antique cannon or a  
34 rifle or shotgun. In addition:

35 (a) the retail dealer shall submit to the Superintendent of State  
36 Police, on a form approved by the superintendent, information  
37 identifying and confirming the background check;

38 (b) every retail dealer shall maintain a record of transactions  
39 conducted pursuant to this section which shall be maintained at the  
40 address set forth on the retail dealer's license for inspection by a law  
41 enforcement officer during reasonable hours;

42 (c) a retail dealer may charge a fee for a transaction conducted  
43 pursuant to this subsection; and

44 (d) any record produced pursuant to this subsection shall not be  
45 considered a public record pursuant to P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et  
46 seq.) or P.L.2001, c.404 (C.47:1A-5 et al.).

47 c. Who may obtain. No person of good character and good  
48 repute in the community in which he lives, and who is not subject to

1 any of the disabilities set forth in this section or other sections of this  
2 chapter, shall be denied a permit to purchase a handgun or a firearms  
3 purchaser identification card, except as hereinafter set forth. No  
4 handgun purchase permit or firearms purchaser identification card  
5 shall be issued:

6 (1) To any person who has been convicted of any crime, or a  
7 disorderly persons offense involving an act of domestic violence as  
8 defined in section 3 of P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-19), whether or not  
9 armed with or possessing a weapon at the time of the offense;

10 (2) To any drug-dependent person as defined in section 2 of  
11 P.L.1970, c.226 (C.24:21-2), to any person who is confined for a  
12 mental disorder to a hospital, mental institution or sanitarium, or to  
13 any person who is presently an habitual drunkard;

14 (3) To any person who suffers from a physical defect or disease  
15 which would make it unsafe for him to handle firearms, to any person  
16 who has ever been confined for a mental disorder, or to any alcoholic  
17 unless any of the foregoing persons produces a certificate of a  
18 medical doctor or psychiatrist licensed in New Jersey, or other  
19 satisfactory proof, that he is no longer suffering from that particular  
20 disability in a manner that would interfere with or handicap him in  
21 the handling of firearms; to any person who knowingly falsifies any  
22 information on the application form for a handgun purchase permit  
23 or firearms purchaser identification card;

24 (4) To any person under the age of 18 years for a firearms  
25 purchaser identification card and to any person under the age of 21  
26 years for a permit to purchase a handgun;

27 (5) To any person where the issuance would not be in the interest  
28 of the public health, safety or welfare;

29 (6) To any person who is subject to a restraining order issued  
30 pursuant to the "Prevention of Domestic Violence Act of 1991",  
31 P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-17 et seq.) prohibiting the person from  
32 possessing any firearm;

33 (7) To any person who as a juvenile was adjudicated delinquent  
34 for an offense which, if committed by an adult, would constitute a  
35 crime and the offense involved the unlawful use or possession of a  
36 weapon, explosive or destructive device or is enumerated in  
37 subsection d. of section 2 of P.L.1997, c.117 (C.2C:43-7.2);

38 (8) To any person whose firearm is seized pursuant to the  
39 "Prevention of Domestic Violence Act of 1991", P.L.1991, c.261  
40 (C.2C:25-17 et seq.) and whose firearm has not been returned; or

41 (9) To any person named on the consolidated Terrorist Watchlist  
42 maintained by the Terrorist Screening Center administered by the  
43 Federal Bureau of Investigation;

44 (10) To any person who is subject to a court order prohibiting the  
45 custody, control, ownership, purchase, possession, or receipt of a  
46 firearm or ammunition issued pursuant to the "Extreme Risk  
47 Protective Order Act of 2018", P.L.2018, c.35 (C.2C:58-20 et al.); or

1 (11) To any person who is subject to a court order prohibiting the  
2 custody, control, ownership, purchase, possession, or receipt of a  
3 firearm or ammunition issued pursuant to P.L.2021, c.327 (C.2C:12-  
4 14 et al.).

5 In order to obtain a permit to purchase a handgun or a firearms  
6 purchaser identification card, the applicant shall demonstrate that,  
7 within four years prior to the date of the application, the applicant  
8 satisfactorily completed a course of instruction approved by the  
9 superintendent in the lawful and safe handling and storage of  
10 firearms. The applicant shall be required to demonstrate completion  
11 of a course of instruction only once prior to obtaining either a  
12 firearms purchaser identification card or the applicant's first permit  
13 to purchase a handgun. The applicant shall not be required to  
14 demonstrate completion of a course of instruction in order to obtain  
15 any subsequent permit to purchase a handgun or a firearms purchaser  
16 identification card, to replace an existing firearms purchaser  
17 identification card, or to renew a firearms purchaser identification  
18 card. An applicant who is a law enforcement officer who has  
19 satisfied the requirements of subsection j. of N.J.S.2C:39-6, a retired  
20 law enforcement officer who has satisfied the requirements of  
21 subsection l. of N.J.S.2C:39-6, or a veteran who was honorably  
22 discharged as a member of the United States Armed Forces or  
23 National Guard who received substantially equivalent training shall  
24 not be required to complete the course of instruction required  
25 pursuant to the provisions of this subsection. A person who obtained  
26 a permit to purchase a handgun or a firearms purchaser identification  
27 card prior to the effective date of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before  
28 the Legislature as this bill) shall not be required to complete a course  
29 of instruction pursuant to this subsection.

30 d. Issuance. The chief of police of an organized full-time police  
31 department of the municipality where the applicant resides or the  
32 superintendent, in all other cases, shall upon application, issue to any  
33 person qualified under the provisions of subsection c. of this section  
34 a permit to purchase a handgun or a firearms purchaser identification  
35 card.

36 Any person aggrieved by the denial of a permit or identification  
37 card may request a hearing in the Superior Court of the county in  
38 which he resides if he is a resident of New Jersey or in the Superior  
39 Court of the county in which his application was filed if he is a  
40 nonresident. The request for a hearing shall be made in writing  
41 within 30 days of the denial of the application for a permit or  
42 identification card. The applicant shall serve a copy of his request  
43 for a hearing upon the chief of police of the municipality in which he  
44 resides, if he is a resident of New Jersey, and upon the superintendent  
45 in all cases. The hearing shall be held and a record made thereof  
46 within 30 days of the receipt of the application for a hearing by the  
47 judge of the Superior Court. No formal pleading and no filing fee



1 shall be required as a preliminary to a hearing. Appeals from the  
2 results of a hearing shall be in accordance with law.

3 e. Applications. Applications for permits to purchase a handgun  
4 and for firearms purchaser identification cards shall be in the form  
5 prescribed by the superintendent and shall set forth the name,  
6 residence, place of business, age, date of birth, occupation, sex and  
7 physical description, including distinguishing physical  
8 characteristics, if any, of the applicant, and shall state whether the  
9 applicant is a citizen, whether he is an alcoholic, habitual drunkard,  
10 drug-dependent person as defined in section 2 of P.L.1970, c.226  
11 (C.24:21-2), whether he has ever been confined or committed to a  
12 mental institution or hospital for treatment or observation of a mental  
13 or psychiatric condition on a temporary, interim or permanent basis,  
14 giving the name and location of the institution or hospital and the  
15 dates of confinement or commitment, whether he has been attended,  
16 treated or observed by any doctor or psychiatrist or at any hospital or  
17 mental institution on an inpatient or outpatient basis for any mental  
18 or psychiatric condition, giving the name and location of the doctor,  
19 psychiatrist, hospital or institution and the dates of the occurrence,  
20 whether he presently or ever has been a member of any organization  
21 which advocates or approves the commission of acts of force and  
22 violence to overthrow the Government of the United States or of this  
23 State, or which seeks to deny others their rights under the  
24 Constitution of either the United States or the State of New Jersey,  
25 whether he has ever been convicted of a crime or disorderly persons  
26 offense, whether the person is subject to a restraining order issued  
27 pursuant to the "Prevention of Domestic Violence Act of 1991",  
28 P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-17 et seq.) prohibiting the person from  
29 possessing any firearm, whether the person is subject to a protective  
30 order issued pursuant to the "Extreme Risk Protective Order Act of  
31 2018", P.L.2018, c.35 (C.2C:58-20 et al.), whether the person is  
32 subject to a protective order issued pursuant to P.L.2021, c.327  
33 (C.2C:12-14 et al.) prohibiting the person from possessing any  
34 firearm, and other information as the superintendent shall deem  
35 necessary for the proper enforcement of this chapter. For the purpose  
36 of complying with this subsection, the applicant shall waive any  
37 statutory or other right of confidentiality relating to institutional  
38 confinement. The application shall be signed by the applicant and  
39 shall contain as references the names and addresses of two reputable  
40 citizens personally acquainted with him.

41 Application blanks shall be obtainable from the superintendent,  
42 from any other officer authorized to grant a permit or identification  
43 card, and from licensed retail dealers.

44 The chief police officer or the superintendent shall obtain the  
45 fingerprints of the applicant and shall have them compared with any  
46 and all records of fingerprints in the municipality and county in  
47 which the applicant resides and also the records of the State Bureau  
48 of Identification and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, provided

1 that an applicant for a handgun purchase permit who possesses a valid  
2 firearms purchaser identification card, or who has previously  
3 obtained a handgun purchase permit from the same licensing  
4 authority for which he was previously fingerprinted, and who  
5 provides other reasonably satisfactory proof of his identity, need not  
6 be fingerprinted again; however, the chief police officer or the  
7 superintendent shall proceed to investigate the application to  
8 determine whether or not the applicant has become subject to any of  
9 the disabilities set forth in this chapter.

10 f. Granting of permit or identification card; fee; term; renewal;  
11 revocation. The application for the permit to purchase a handgun  
12 together with a fee of \$2, or the application for the firearms purchaser  
13 identification card together with a fee of \$5, shall be delivered or  
14 forwarded to the licensing authority who shall investigate the same  
15 and, unless good cause for the denial thereof appears, shall grant the  
16 permit or the identification card, or both, if application has been made  
17 therefor, within 30 days from the date of receipt of the application  
18 for residents of this State and within 45 days for nonresident  
19 applicants. A permit to purchase a handgun shall be valid for a period  
20 of 90 days from the date of issuance and may be renewed by the  
21 issuing authority for good cause for an additional 90 days. A firearms  
22 purchaser identification card issued or renewed after the effective date  
23 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)  
24 shall [be valid until such time as] expire during the fourth calendar  
25 year following its date of issuance and on the same calendar day as  
26 the person's date of birth.

27 A firearms purchaser identification card issued prior to the  
28 effective date of P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this  
29 bill) shall expire during the fourth calendar year following the effective  
30 date of P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill) and on  
31 the same calendar day as the person's date of birth.

32 If the date of birth of the firearms purchaser identification card holder  
33 does not correspond to a calendar day of the fourth calendar year, the  
34 card shall expire on the last day of the birth month of the card holder.

35 A firearms purchaser identification card issued pursuant to this  
36 section may be renewed upon filing of a renewal application and  
37 payment of the required fee, provided that the holder is not subject to  
38 any of the disabilities set forth in subsection c. of this section and  
39 complies with all other applicable requirements as set forth in statute  
40 and regulation.

41 The firearms purchaser identification card shall be void if the  
42 holder becomes subject to any of the disabilities set forth in  
43 subsection c. of this section, whereupon the card shall be void and  
44 shall be returned within five days by the holder to the superintendent,  
45 who shall then advise the licensing authority. Failure of the holder  
46 to return the firearms purchaser identification card to the  
47 superintendent within the five days shall be an offense under  
48 subsection a. of N.J.S.2C:39-10. Any firearms purchaser

1 identification card may be revoked by the Superior Court of the  
2 county wherein the card was issued, after hearing upon notice, upon  
3 a finding that the holder thereof no longer qualifies for the issuance  
4 of the permit. The county prosecutor of any county, the chief police  
5 officer of any municipality or any citizen may apply to the court at  
6 any time for the revocation of the card.

7 There shall be no conditions or requirements added to the form or  
8 content of the application, or required by the licensing authority for  
9 the issuance or renewal of a permit or identification card, other than  
10 those that are specifically set forth in this chapter.

11 g. Disposition of fees. All fees for permits shall be paid to the  
12 State Treasury if the permit is issued by the superintendent, to the  
13 municipality if issued by the chief of police, and to the county  
14 treasurer if issued by the judge of the Superior Court.

15 h. Form of permit; quadruplicate; disposition of copies. The  
16 permit shall be in the form prescribed by the superintendent and shall  
17 be issued to the applicant in quadruplicate. Prior to the time he  
18 receives the handgun from the seller, the applicant shall deliver to the  
19 seller the permit in quadruplicate and the seller shall complete all of  
20 the information required on the form. Within five days of the date of  
21 the sale, the seller shall forward the original copy to the  
22 superintendent and the second copy to the chief of police of the  
23 municipality in which the purchaser resides, except that in a  
24 municipality having no chief of police, the copy shall be forwarded  
25 to the superintendent. The third copy shall then be returned to the  
26 purchaser with the pistol or revolver and the fourth copy shall be kept  
27 by the seller as a permanent record.

28 i. Restriction on number of firearms person may purchase. Only  
29 one handgun shall be purchased or delivered on each permit and no  
30 more than one handgun shall be purchased within any 30-day period,  
31 but this limitation shall not apply to:

32 (1) a federal, State, or local law enforcement officer or agency  
33 purchasing handguns for use by officers in the actual performance of  
34 their law enforcement duties;

35 (2) a collector of handguns as curios or relics as defined in Title  
36 18, United States Code, section 921 (a) (13) who has in his possession  
37 a valid Collector of Curios and Relics License issued by the federal  
38 Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives;

39 (3) transfers of handguns among licensed retail dealers, registered  
40 wholesale dealers and registered manufacturers;

41 (4) transfers of handguns from any person to a licensed retail  
42 dealer or a registered wholesale dealer or registered manufacturer;

43 (5) any transaction where the person has purchased a handgun  
44 from a licensed retail dealer and has returned that handgun to the  
45 dealer in exchange for another handgun within 30 days of the original  
46 transaction, provided the retail dealer reports the exchange  
47 transaction to the superintendent; or

1 (6) any transaction where the superintendent issues an exemption  
2 from the prohibition in this subsection pursuant to the provisions of  
3 section 4 of P.L.2009, c.186 (C.2C:58-3.4).

4 The provisions of this subsection shall not be construed to afford  
5 or authorize any other exemption from the regulatory provisions  
6 governing firearms set forth in chapter 39 and chapter 58 of Title 2C  
7 of the New Jersey Statutes;

8 A person shall not be restricted as to the number of rifles or  
9 shotguns he may purchase, provided he possesses a valid firearms  
10 purchaser identification card and provided further that he signs the  
11 certification required in subsection b. of this section for each  
12 transaction.

13 j. Firearms passing to heirs or legatees. Notwithstanding any  
14 other provision of this section concerning the transfer, receipt or  
15 acquisition of a firearm, a permit to purchase or a firearms purchaser  
16 identification card shall not be required for the passing of a firearm  
17 upon the death of an owner thereof to his heir or legatee, whether the  
18 same be by testamentary bequest or by the laws of intestacy. The  
19 person who shall so receive, or acquire the firearm shall, however, be  
20 subject to all other provisions of this chapter. If the heir or legatee of  
21 the firearm does not qualify to possess or carry it, he may retain  
22 ownership of the firearm for the purpose of sale for a period not  
23 exceeding 180 days, or for a further limited period as may be  
24 approved by the chief law enforcement officer of the municipality in  
25 which the heir or legatee resides or the superintendent, provided that  
26 the firearm is in the custody of the chief law enforcement officer of  
27 the municipality or the superintendent during that period.

28 k. Sawed-off shotguns. Nothing in this section shall be  
29 construed to authorize the purchase or possession of any sawed-off  
30 shotgun.

31 l. Nothing in this section and in N.J.S.2C:58-2 shall apply to the  
32 sale or purchase of a visual distress signalling device approved by the  
33 United States Coast Guard, solely for possession on a private or  
34 commercial aircraft or any boat; provided, however, that no person  
35 under the age of 18 years shall purchase nor shall any person sell to  
36 a person under the age of 18 years a visual distress signalling device.

37 m. The provisions of subsections a. and b. of this section and  
38 paragraphs (4) and (5) of subsection a. of N.J.S.2C:58-2 shall not  
39 apply to the purchase of firearms by a law enforcement agency for  
40 use by law enforcement officers in the actual performance of the  
41 current or former judge's duties, which purchase may be made  
42 directly from a manufacturer or from a licensed dealer located in this  
43 State or any other state.

44 n. For the purposes of this section, "immediate family" means a  
45 spouse, domestic partner as defined in section 3 of P.L.2003, c.246  
46 (C.26:8A-3), partner in a civil union couple as defined in section 2 of  
47 P.L.2006, c.103 (C.37:1-29), parent, stepparent, grandparent, sibling,

1 stepsibling, child, stepchild, and grandchild, as related by blood or  
2 by law.

3 (cf: P.L.2021, c.327, s.6)

4

5 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

6

7

8

#### STATEMENT

9

10 This bill requires certain applicants for a permit to purchase a  
11 handgun (PPH) or a firearms purchaser identification card (FPIC) to  
12 demonstrate that, within four years prior to the date of the  
13 application, the applicant satisfactorily completed a course of  
14 instruction approved by the Superintendent of State Police in the  
15 lawful and safe handling and storage of firearms.

16 An applicant for a PPH or an FPIC is required to demonstrate  
17 compliance with this bill only once prior to obtaining either a PPH or  
18 an FPIC. An applicant for a PPH is required to demonstrate  
19 compliance with the provisions of this bill prior to obtaining the  
20 applicant's first PPH, but only if the applicant has not already  
21 demonstrated compliance prior to receiving an FPIC; an applicant is  
22 not required to demonstrate compliance in order to obtain any  
23 subsequent PPHs. In addition, an applicant for an FPIC is not  
24 required to demonstrate compliance in order to replace an existing  
25 FPIC or to renew an FPIC.

26 A person who obtained a PPH or an FPIC prior to the bill's  
27 effective date would not be required to complete a course of  
28 instruction.

29 The provisions of this bill are not applicable to an active or retired  
30 law enforcement officer or a veteran who was honorably discharged  
31 as a member of the United States Armed Forces or National Guard  
32 and who received substantially equivalent training.

33 In addition, the bill provides that a firearms purchaser  
34 identification card issued or renewed after the bill's effective date  
35 would expire during the fourth calendar year following its date of  
36 issuance and on the same calendar day as the card holder's date of  
37 birth. The holder of a firearms purchaser identification card issued  
38 prior to the bill's effective date would expire within four years of the  
39 bill's enactment and on the same calendar day as the card holder's  
40 date of birth. The bill further provides that a firearms purchaser  
41 identification card may be renewed if the holder is not subject to any  
42 of the statutory disabilities and after filing of a renewal application  
43 and payment of the required fee.

44 Under current law, a firearms purchaser identification card is valid  
45 indefinitely, unless the holder becomes subject to any of the  
46 disabilities that disqualify a person for firearms ownership.

# ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **ASSEMBLY, No. 4370**

with committee amendments

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JUNE 23, 2022

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 4370, with committee amendments.

As amended and reported by the committee, Assembly Bill No. 4370 requires certain applicants for a permit to purchase a handgun (PPH) or a firearms purchaser identification card (FPIC) to demonstrate that, within four years prior to the date of the application, the applicant satisfactorily completed a course of instruction approved by the Superintendent of State Police in the lawful and safe handling and storage of firearms.

An applicant for a PPH or an FPIC is required to demonstrate compliance with this bill only once prior to obtaining either a PPH or an FPIC. An applicant for a PPH is required to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of this bill prior to obtaining the applicant's first PPH, but only if the applicant has not already demonstrated compliance prior to receiving an FPIC; an applicant is not required to demonstrate compliance in order to obtain any subsequent PPHs. In addition, an applicant for an FPIC is not required to demonstrate compliance in order to replace an existing FPIC or to renew an FPIC.

A person who obtained a PPH or an FPIC prior to the bill's effective date would not be required to complete a course of instruction.

The provisions of this bill are not applicable to an active or retired law enforcement officer or a veteran who was honorably discharged as a member of the United States Armed Forces or National Guard and who received substantially equivalent training.

In addition, the amended bill requires any FPIC issued after the bill's effective date to display a color photograph and a thumb print of the card holder. A person who obtained a FPIC prior to the effective date of bill would not be required to obtain a firearm purchaser identification that displays a color photograph and a thumb print. The bill requires the Superintendent of State Police to establish guidelines necessary to effectuate the issuance of FPICs that display a color photograph and a thumb print of the card holder.

As amended, the bill provides that a firearms purchaser identification card issued or renewed after the bill's effective date would expire during the tenth calendar year following its date of issuance and on the same calendar day as the card holder's date of birth. The bill further provides that a firearms purchaser identification card may be renewed if the holder is not subject to any of the statutory disabilities and after filing of a renewal application and payment of the required fee. A firearms purchaser identification card issued prior to the bill's effective date would not expire.

Under current law, a firearms purchaser identification card is valid indefinitely, unless the holder becomes subject to any of the disabilities that disqualify a person for firearms ownership.

#### COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amendments:

- 1) provide that the FPIC is to expire every ten years, instead of four;
- 2) provide that only FPICs issued after the bill's effective date are to expire; and
- 3) require any FPIC issued after the bill's effective date to display a color photograph and a thumb print of the card holder.

#### FISCAL IMPACT:

This bill has not been certified as requiring a fiscal note.

# ASSEMBLY JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### ASSEMBLY, No. 4370

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 22, 2022

The Assembly Judiciary Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 4370.

This bill requires certain applicants for a permit to purchase a handgun (PPH) or a firearms purchaser identification card (FPIC) to demonstrate that, within four years prior to the date of the application, the applicant satisfactorily completed a course of instruction approved by the Superintendent of State Police in the lawful and safe handling and storage of firearms.

An applicant for a PPH or an FPIC is required to demonstrate compliance with this bill only once prior to obtaining either a PPH or an FPIC. An applicant for a PPH is required to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of this bill prior to obtaining the applicant's first PPH, but only if the applicant has not already demonstrated compliance prior to receiving an FPIC; an applicant is not required to demonstrate compliance in order to obtain any subsequent PPHs. In addition, an applicant for an FPIC is not required to demonstrate compliance in order to replace an existing FPIC or to renew an FPIC.

A person who obtained a PPH or an FPIC prior to the bill's effective date would not be required to complete a course of instruction.

The provisions of this bill are not applicable to an active or retired law enforcement officer or a veteran who was honorably discharged as a member of the United States Armed Forces or National Guard and who received substantially equivalent training.

In addition, the bill provides that a firearms purchaser identification card issued or renewed after the bill's effective date would expire during the fourth calendar year following its date of issuance and on the same calendar day as the card holder's date of birth. The holder of a firearms purchaser identification card issued prior to the bill's effective date would expire within four years of the bill's enactment and on the same calendar day as the card holder's date of birth. The bill further provides that a firearms purchaser identification card may be renewed if the holder is not subject to any of the statutory disabilities and after filing of a renewal application and payment of the required fee.

Under current law, a firearms purchaser identification card is valid indefinitely, unless the holder becomes subject to any of the disabilities that disqualify a person for firearms ownership.



**SENATE, No. 2906**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**220th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED JUNE 20, 2022

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator RICHARD J. CODEY**

**District 27 (Essex and Morris)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires training prior to issuance of firearms purchaser identification card and permit to purchase handgun under certain circumstances; provides that firearms purchaser identification card is valid for four years.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



S2906 CODEY

2

1 AN ACT concerning firearms and amending N.J.S.2C:58-3.

2

3 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
4 of New Jersey:

5

6 1. N.J.S.2C:58-3 is amended to read as follows:

7 2C:58-3. a. Permit to purchase a handgun.

8 (1) No person shall sell, give, transfer, assign or otherwise  
9 dispose of, nor receive, purchase, or otherwise acquire a handgun  
10 unless the purchaser, assignee, donee, receiver or holder is licensed  
11 as a dealer under this chapter or has first secured a permit to  
12 purchase a handgun as provided by this section.

13 (2) A person who is not a licensed retail dealer and sells, gives,  
14 transfers, assigns, or otherwise disposes of, or receives, purchases  
15 or otherwise acquires a handgun pursuant to this section shall  
16 conduct the transaction through a licensed retail dealer.

17 The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply if the transaction  
18 is:

19 (a) between members of an immediate family as defined in  
20 subsection n. of this section;

21 (b) between law enforcement officers;

22 (c) between collectors of firearms or ammunition as curios or  
23 relics as defined in Title 18, U.S.C. section 921 (a) (13) who have  
24 in their possession a valid Collector of Curios and Relics License  
25 issued by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and  
26 Explosives; or

27 (d) a temporary transfer pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1992, c.74  
28 (C.2C:58-3.1) or section 1 of P.L.1997, c.375 (C.2C:58-3.2).

29 (3) Prior to a transaction conducted pursuant to this subsection,  
30 the retail dealer shall complete a National Instant Criminal  
31 Background Check of the person acquiring the handgun. In  
32 addition:

33 (a) the retail dealer shall submit to the Superintendent of State  
34 Police, on a form approved by the superintendent, information  
35 identifying and confirming the background check;

36 (b) every retail dealer shall maintain a record of transactions  
37 conducted pursuant to this subsection, which shall be maintained at  
38 the address displayed on the retail dealer's license for inspection by  
39 a law enforcement officer during reasonable hours;

40 (c) a retail dealer may charge a fee for a transaction conducted  
41 pursuant to this subsection; and

42 (d) any record produced pursuant to this subsection shall not be  
43 considered a public record pursuant to P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et  
44 seq.) or P.L.2001, c.404 (C.47:1A-5 et al.).

45 b. Firearms purchaser identification card.

46 (1) No person shall sell, give, transfer, assign or otherwise  
47 dispose of nor receive, purchase or otherwise acquire an antique

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is  
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 cannon or a rifle or shotgun, other than an antique rifle or shotgun,  
2 unless the purchaser, assignee, donee, receiver or holder is licensed  
3 as a dealer under this chapter or possesses a valid firearms  
4 purchaser identification card, and first exhibits the card to the seller,  
5 donor, transferor or assignor, and unless the purchaser, assignee,  
6 donee, receiver or holder signs a written certification, on a form  
7 prescribed by the superintendent, which shall indicate that he  
8 presently complies with the requirements of subsection c. of this  
9 section and shall contain his name, address and firearms purchaser  
10 identification card number or dealer's registration number. The  
11 certification shall be retained by the seller, as provided in paragraph  
12 (4) of subsection a. of N.J.S.2C:58-2, or, in the case of a person  
13 who is not a dealer, it may be filed with the chief of police of the  
14 municipality in which he resides or with the superintendent.

15 (2) A person who is not a licensed retail dealer and sells, gives,  
16 transfers, assigns, or otherwise disposes of, or receives, purchases  
17 or otherwise acquires an antique cannon or a rifle or shotgun  
18 pursuant to this section shall conduct the transaction through a  
19 licensed retail dealer.

20 The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply if the transaction  
21 is:

22 (a) between members of an immediate family as defined in  
23 subsection n. of this section;

24 (b) between law enforcement officers;

25 (c) between collectors of firearms or ammunition as curios or  
26 relics as defined in Title 18, U.S.C. section 921 (a) (13) who have  
27 in their possession a valid Collector of Curios and Relics License  
28 issued by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and  
29 Explosives; or

30 (d) a temporary transfer pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1992, c.74  
31 (C.2C:58-3.1) and section 1 of P.L.1997, c.375 (C.2C:58-3.2).

32 (3) Prior to a transaction conducted pursuant to this subsection,  
33 the retail dealer shall complete a National Instant Criminal  
34 Background Check of the person acquiring an antique cannon or a  
35 rifle or shotgun. In addition:

36 (a) the retail dealer shall submit to the Superintendent of State  
37 Police, on a form approved by the superintendent, information  
38 identifying and confirming the background check;

39 (b) every retail dealer shall maintain a record of transactions  
40 conducted pursuant to this section which shall be maintained at the  
41 address set forth on the retail dealer's license for inspection by a law  
42 enforcement officer during reasonable hours;

43 (c) a retail dealer may charge a fee for a transaction conducted  
44 pursuant to this subsection; and

45 (d) any record produced pursuant to this subsection shall not be  
46 considered a public record pursuant to P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et  
47 seq.) or P.L.2001, c.404 (C.47:1A-5 et al.).

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1 c. Who may obtain. No person of good character and good  
2 repute in the community in which he lives, and who is not subject to  
3 any of the disabilities set forth in this section or other sections of  
4 this chapter, shall be denied a permit to purchase a handgun or a  
5 firearms purchaser identification card, except as hereinafter set  
6 forth. No handgun purchase permit or firearms purchaser  
7 identification card shall be issued:

8 (1) To any person who has been convicted of any crime, or a  
9 disorderly persons offense involving an act of domestic violence as  
10 defined in section 3 of P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-19), whether or  
11 not armed with or possessing a weapon at the time of the offense;

12 (2) To any drug-dependent person as defined in section 2 of  
13 P.L.1970, c.226 (C.24:21-2), to any person who is confined for a  
14 mental disorder to a hospital, mental institution or sanitarium, or to  
15 any person who is presently an habitual drunkard;

16 (3) To any person who suffers from a physical defect or disease  
17 which would make it unsafe for him to handle firearms, to any  
18 person who has ever been confined for a mental disorder, or to any  
19 alcoholic unless any of the foregoing persons produces a certificate  
20 of a medical doctor or psychiatrist licensed in New Jersey, or other  
21 satisfactory proof, that he is no longer suffering from that particular  
22 disability in a manner that would interfere with or handicap him in  
23 the handling of firearms; to any person who knowingly falsifies any  
24 information on the application form for a handgun purchase permit  
25 or firearms purchaser identification card;

26 (4) To any person under the age of 18 years for a firearms  
27 purchaser identification card and to any person under the age of 21  
28 years for a permit to purchase a handgun;

29 (5) To any person where the issuance would not be in the interest  
30 of the public health, safety or welfare;

31 (6) To any person who is subject to a restraining order issued  
32 pursuant to the "Prevention of Domestic Violence Act of 1991",  
33 P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-17 et seq.) prohibiting the person from  
34 possessing any firearm;

35 (7) To any person who as a juvenile was adjudicated delinquent  
36 for an offense which, if committed by an adult, would constitute a  
37 crime and the offense involved the unlawful use or possession of a  
38 weapon, explosive or destructive device or is enumerated in  
39 subsection d. of section 2 of P.L.1997, c.117 (C.2C:43-7.2);

40 (8) To any person whose firearm is seized pursuant to the  
41 "Prevention of Domestic Violence Act of 1991", P.L.1991, c.261  
42 (C.2C:25-17 et seq.) and whose firearm has not been returned; or

43 (9) To any person named on the consolidated Terrorist Watchlist  
44 maintained by the Terrorist Screening Center administered by the  
45 Federal Bureau of Investigation;

46 (10) To any person who is subject to a court order prohibiting the  
47 custody, control, ownership, purchase, possession, or receipt of a  
48 firearm or ammunition issued pursuant to the "Extreme Risk

1 Protective Order Act of 2018", P.L.2018, c.35 (C.2C:58-20 et al.);  
2 or

3 (11) To any person who is subject to a court order prohibiting the  
4 custody, control, ownership, purchase, possession, or receipt of a  
5 firearm or ammunition issued pursuant to P.L.2021, c.327  
6 (C.2C:12-14 et al.).

7 In order to obtain a permit to purchase a handgun or a firearms  
8 purchaser identification card, the applicant shall demonstrate that,  
9 within four years prior to the date of the application, the applicant  
10 satisfactorily completed a course of instruction approved by the  
11 superintendent in the lawful and safe handling and storage of  
12 firearms. The applicant shall be required to demonstrate  
13 completion of a course of instruction only once prior to obtaining  
14 either a firearms purchaser identification card or the applicant's first  
15 permit to purchase a handgun. The applicant shall not be required to  
16 demonstrate completion of a course of instruction in order to obtain  
17 any subsequent permit to purchase a handgun or a firearms  
18 purchaser identification card, to replace an existing firearms  
19 purchaser identification card, or to renew a firearms purchaser  
20 identification card. An applicant who is a law enforcement officer  
21 who has satisfied the requirements of subsection j. of N.J.S.2C:39-  
22 6, a retired law enforcement officer who has satisfied the  
23 requirements of subsection l. of N.J.S.2C:39-6, or a veteran who  
24 was honorably discharged as a member of the United States Armed  
25 Forces or National Guard who received substantially equivalent  
26 training shall not be required to complete the course of instruction  
27 required pursuant to the provisions of this subsection. A person  
28 who obtained a permit to purchase a handgun or a firearms  
29 purchaser identification card prior to the effective date of  
30 P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)  
31 shall not be required to complete a course of instruction pursuant to  
32 this subsection.

33 d. Issuance. The chief of police of an organized full-time  
34 police department of the municipality where the applicant resides or  
35 the superintendent, in all other cases, shall upon application, issue  
36 to any person qualified under the provisions of subsection c. of this  
37 section a permit to purchase a handgun or a firearms purchaser  
38 identification card.

39 Any person aggrieved by the denial of a permit or identification  
40 card may request a hearing in the Superior Court of the county in  
41 which he resides if he is a resident of New Jersey or in the Superior  
42 Court of the county in which his application was filed if he is a  
43 nonresident. The request for a hearing shall be made in writing  
44 within 30 days of the denial of the application for a permit or  
45 identification card. The applicant shall serve a copy of his request  
46 for a hearing upon the chief of police of the municipality in which  
47 he resides, if he is a resident of New Jersey, and upon the  
48 superintendent in all cases. The hearing shall be held and a record

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1 made thereof within 30 days of the receipt of the application for a  
2 hearing by the judge of the Superior Court. No formal pleading and  
3 no filing fee shall be required as a preliminary to a hearing.  
4 Appeals from the results of a hearing shall be in accordance with  
5 law.

6 e. Applications. Applications for permits to purchase a  
7 handgun and for firearms purchaser identification cards shall be in  
8 the form prescribed by the superintendent and shall set forth the  
9 name, residence, place of business, age, date of birth, occupation,  
10 sex and physical description, including distinguishing physical  
11 characteristics, if any, of the applicant, and shall state whether the  
12 applicant is a citizen, whether he is an alcoholic, habitual drunkard,  
13 drug-dependent person as defined in section 2 of P.L.1970, c.226  
14 (C.24:21-2), whether he has ever been confined or committed to a  
15 mental institution or hospital for treatment or observation of a  
16 mental or psychiatric condition on a temporary, interim or  
17 permanent basis, giving the name and location of the institution or  
18 hospital and the dates of confinement or commitment, whether he  
19 has been attended, treated or observed by any doctor or psychiatrist  
20 or at any hospital or mental institution on an inpatient or outpatient  
21 basis for any mental or psychiatric condition, giving the name and  
22 location of the doctor, psychiatrist, hospital or institution and the  
23 dates of the occurrence, whether he presently or ever has been a  
24 member of any organization which advocates or approves the  
25 commission of acts of force and violence to overthrow the  
26 Government of the United States or of this State, or which seeks to  
27 deny others their rights under the Constitution of either the United  
28 States or the State of New Jersey, whether he has ever been  
29 convicted of a crime or disorderly persons offense, whether the  
30 person is subject to a restraining order issued pursuant to the  
31 "Prevention of Domestic Violence Act of 1991", P.L.1991, c.261  
32 (C.2C:25-17 et seq.) prohibiting the person from possessing any  
33 firearm, whether the person is subject to a protective order issued  
34 pursuant to the "Extreme Risk Protective Order Act of 2018",  
35 P.L.2018, c.35 (C.2C:58-20 et al.), whether the person is subject to  
36 a protective order issued pursuant to P.L.2021, c.327 (C.2C:12-14  
37 et al.) prohibiting the person from possessing any firearm, and other  
38 information as the superintendent shall deem necessary for the  
39 proper enforcement of this chapter. For the purpose of complying  
40 with this subsection, the applicant shall waive any statutory or other  
41 right of confidentiality relating to institutional confinement. The  
42 application shall be signed by the applicant and shall contain as  
43 references the names and addresses of two reputable citizens  
44 personally acquainted with him.

45 Application blanks shall be obtainable from the superintendent,  
46 from any other officer authorized to grant a permit or identification  
47 card, and from licensed retail dealers.

1 The chief police officer or the superintendent shall obtain the  
2 fingerprints of the applicant and shall have them compared with any  
3 and all records of fingerprints in the municipality and county in  
4 which the applicant resides and also the records of the State Bureau  
5 of Identification and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, provided  
6 that an applicant for a handgun purchase permit who possesses a  
7 valid firearms purchaser identification card, or who has previously  
8 obtained a handgun purchase permit from the same licensing  
9 authority for which he was previously fingerprinted, and who  
10 provides other reasonably satisfactory proof of his identity, need not  
11 be fingerprinted again; however, the chief police officer or the  
12 superintendent shall proceed to investigate the application to  
13 determine whether or not the applicant has become subject to any of  
14 the disabilities set forth in this chapter.

15 f. Granting of permit or identification card; fee; term; renewal;  
16 revocation. The application for the permit to purchase a handgun  
17 together with a fee of \$2, or the application for the firearms  
18 purchaser identification card together with a fee of \$5, shall be  
19 delivered or forwarded to the licensing authority who shall  
20 investigate the same and, unless good cause for the denial thereof  
21 appears, shall grant the permit or the identification card, or both, if  
22 application has been made therefor, within 30 days from the date of  
23 receipt of the application for residents of this State and within 45  
24 days for nonresident applicants. A permit to purchase a handgun  
25 shall be valid for a period of 90 days from the date of issuance and  
26 may be renewed by the issuing authority for good cause for an  
27 additional 90 days. A firearms purchaser identification card issued  
28 or renewed after the effective date of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending  
29 before the Legislature as this bill) shall **【be valid until such time as】**  
30 expire during the fourth calendar year following its date of issuance  
31 and on the same calendar day as the person's date of birth.

32 A firearms purchaser identification card issued prior to the  
33 effective date of P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this  
34 bill) shall expire during the fourth calendar year following the  
35 effective date of P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this  
36 bill) and on the same calendar day as the person's date of birth.

37 If the date of birth of the firearms purchaser identification card  
38 holder does not correspond to a calendar day of the fourth calendar  
39 year, the card shall expire on the last day of the birth month of the card  
40 holder.

41 A firearms purchaser identification card issued pursuant to this  
42 section may be renewed upon filing of a renewal application and  
43 payment of the required fee, provided that the holder is not subject to  
44 any of the disabilities set forth in subsection c. of this section and  
45 complies with all other applicable requirements as set forth in statute  
46 and regulation.

47 The firearms purchaser identification card shall be void if the  
48 holder becomes subject to any of the disabilities set forth in

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1 subsection c. of this section, whereupon the card shall be void and  
2 shall be returned within five days by the holder to the  
3 superintendent, who shall then advise the licensing authority.  
4 Failure of the holder to return the firearms purchaser identification  
5 card to the superintendent within the five days shall be an offense  
6 under subsection a. of N.J.S.2C:39-10. Any firearms purchaser  
7 identification card may be revoked by the Superior Court of the  
8 county wherein the card was issued, after hearing upon notice, upon  
9 a finding that the holder thereof no longer qualifies for the issuance  
10 of the permit. The county prosecutor of any county, the chief police  
11 officer of any municipality or any citizen may apply to the court at  
12 any time for the revocation of the card.

13 There shall be no conditions or requirements added to the form  
14 or content of the application, or required by the licensing authority  
15 for the issuance or renewal of a permit or identification card, other  
16 than those that are specifically set forth in this chapter.

17 g. Disposition of fees. All fees for permits shall be paid to the  
18 State Treasury if the permit is issued by the superintendent, to the  
19 municipality if issued by the chief of police, and to the county  
20 treasurer if issued by the judge of the Superior Court.

21 h. Form of permit; quadruplicate; disposition of copies. The  
22 permit shall be in the form prescribed by the superintendent and  
23 shall be issued to the applicant in quadruplicate. Prior to the time  
24 he receives the handgun from the seller, the applicant shall deliver  
25 to the seller the permit in quadruplicate and the seller shall  
26 complete all of the information required on the form. Within five  
27 days of the date of the sale, the seller shall forward the original  
28 copy to the superintendent and the second copy to the chief of  
29 police of the municipality in which the purchaser resides, except  
30 that in a municipality having no chief of police, the copy shall be  
31 forwarded to the superintendent. The third copy shall then be  
32 returned to the purchaser with the pistol or revolver and the fourth  
33 copy shall be kept by the seller as a permanent record.

34 i. Restriction on number of firearms person may purchase.  
35 Only one handgun shall be purchased or delivered on each permit  
36 and no more than one handgun shall be purchased within any 30-  
37 day period, but this limitation shall not apply to:

38 (1) a federal, State, or local law enforcement officer or agency  
39 purchasing handguns for use by officers in the actual performance  
40 of their law enforcement duties;

41 (2) a collector of handguns as curios or relics as defined in Title  
42 18, United States Code, section 921 (a) (13) who has in his  
43 possession a valid Collector of Curios and Relics License issued by  
44 the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives;

45 (3) transfers of handguns among licensed retail dealers,  
46 registered wholesale dealers and registered manufacturers;

47 (4) transfers of handguns from any person to a licensed retail  
48 dealer or a registered wholesale dealer or registered manufacturer;



1 (5) any transaction where the person has purchased a handgun  
2 from a licensed retail dealer and has returned that handgun to the  
3 dealer in exchange for another handgun within 30 days of the  
4 original transaction, provided the retail dealer reports the exchange  
5 transaction to the superintendent; or

6 (6) any transaction where the superintendent issues an exemption  
7 from the prohibition in this subsection pursuant to the provisions of  
8 section 4 of P.L.2009, c.186 (C.2C:58-3.4).

9 The provisions of this subsection shall not be construed to afford  
10 or authorize any other exemption from the regulatory provisions  
11 governing firearms set forth in chapter 39 and chapter 58 of Title  
12 2C of the New Jersey Statutes;

13 A person shall not be restricted as to the number of rifles or  
14 shotguns he may purchase, provided he possesses a valid firearms  
15 purchaser identification card and provided further that he signs the  
16 certification required in subsection b. of this section for each  
17 transaction.

18 j. Firearms passing to heirs or legatees. Notwithstanding any  
19 other provision of this section concerning the transfer, receipt or  
20 acquisition of a firearm, a permit to purchase or a firearms  
21 purchaser identification card shall not be required for the passing of  
22 a firearm upon the death of an owner thereof to his heir or legatee,  
23 whether the same be by testamentary bequest or by the laws of  
24 intestacy. The person who shall so receive, or acquire the firearm  
25 shall, however, be subject to all other provisions of this chapter. If  
26 the heir or legatee of the firearm does not qualify to possess or carry  
27 it, he may retain ownership of the firearm for the purpose of sale for  
28 a period not exceeding 180 days, or for a further limited period as  
29 may be approved by the chief law enforcement officer of the  
30 municipality in which the heir or legatee resides or the  
31 superintendent, provided that the firearm is in the custody of the  
32 chief law enforcement officer of the municipality or the  
33 superintendent during that period.

34 k. Sawed-off shotguns. Nothing in this section shall be  
35 construed to authorize the purchase or possession of any sawed-off  
36 shotgun.

37 l. Nothing in this section and in N.J.S.2C:58-2 shall apply to  
38 the sale or purchase of a visual distress signalling device approved  
39 by the United States Coast Guard, solely for possession on a private  
40 or commercial aircraft or any boat; provided, however, that no  
41 person under the age of 18 years shall purchase nor shall any person  
42 sell to a person under the age of 18 years a visual distress signalling  
43 device.

44 m. The provisions of subsections a. and b. of this section and  
45 paragraphs (4) and (5) of subsection a. of N.J.S.2C:58-2 shall not  
46 apply to the purchase of firearms by a law enforcement agency for  
47 use by law enforcement officers in the actual performance of the  
48 current or former judge's duties, which purchase may be made

1 directly from a manufacturer or from a licensed dealer located in  
2 this State or any other state.

3 n. For the purposes of this section, "immediate family" means a  
4 spouse, domestic partner as defined in section 3 of P.L.2003, c.246  
5 (C.26:8A-3), partner in a civil union couple as defined in section 2  
6 of P.L.2006, c.103 (C.37:1-29), parent, stepparent, grandparent,  
7 sibling, stepsibling, child, stepchild, and grandchild, as related by  
8 blood or by law.

9 (cf: P.L.2021, c.327, s.6)

10

11 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

12

13

14

### STATEMENT

15

16 This bill requires certain applicants for a permit to purchase a  
17 handgun (PPH) or a firearms purchaser identification card (FPIC) to  
18 demonstrate that, within four years prior to the date of the  
19 application, the applicant satisfactorily completed a course of  
20 instruction approved by the Superintendent of State Police in the  
21 lawful and safe handling and storage of firearms.

22 An applicant for a PPH or an FPIC is required to demonstrate  
23 compliance with this bill only once prior to obtaining either a PPH  
24 or an FPIC. An applicant for a PPH is required to demonstrate  
25 compliance with the provisions of this bill prior to obtaining the  
26 applicant's first PPH, but only if the applicant has not already  
27 demonstrated compliance prior to receiving an FPIC; an applicant is  
28 not required to demonstrate compliance in order to obtain any  
29 subsequent PPHs. In addition, an applicant for an FPIC is not  
30 required to demonstrate compliance in order to replace an existing  
31 FPIC or to renew an FPIC.

32 A person who obtained a PPH or an FPIC prior to the bill's  
33 effective date would not be required to complete a course of  
34 instruction.

35 The provisions of this bill are not applicable to an active or  
36 retired law enforcement officer or a veteran who was honorably  
37 discharged as a member of the United States Armed Forces or  
38 National Guard and who received substantially equivalent training.

39 In addition, the bill provides that a firearms purchaser  
40 identification card issued or renewed after the bill's effective date  
41 would expire during the fourth calendar year following its date of  
42 issuance and on the same calendar day as the card holder's date of  
43 birth. The holder of a firearms purchaser identification card issued  
44 prior to the bill's effective date would expire within four years of  
45 the bill's enactment and on the same calendar day as the card  
46 holder's date of birth. The bill further provides that a firearms  
47 purchaser identification card may be renewed if the holder is not

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11

1 subject to any of the statutory disabilities and after filing of a  
2 renewal application and payment of the required fee.

3 Under current law, a firearms purchaser identification card is  
4 valid indefinitely, unless the holder becomes subject to any of the  
5 disabilities that disqualify a person for firearms ownership.

# SENATE LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **SENATE, No. 2906**

with committee amendments

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JUNE 23, 2022

The Senate Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 2906.

As amended and reported by the committee, this bill requires certain applicants for a permit to purchase a handgun (PPH) or a firearms purchaser identification card (FPIC) to demonstrate that, within four years prior to the date of the application, the applicant satisfactorily completed a course of instruction approved by the Superintendent of State Police in the lawful and safe handling and storage of firearms.

An applicant for a PPH or an FPIC is required to demonstrate compliance with this bill only once prior to obtaining either a PPH or an FPIC. An applicant for a PPH is required to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of this bill prior to obtaining the applicant's first PPH, but only if the applicant has not already demonstrated compliance prior to receiving an FPIC; an applicant is not required to demonstrate compliance in order to obtain any subsequent PPHs. In addition, an applicant for an FPIC is not required to demonstrate compliance in order to replace an existing FPIC or to renew an FPIC.

A person who obtained a PPH or an FPIC prior to the bill's effective date would not be required to complete a course of instruction.

The provisions of this bill are not applicable to an active or retired law enforcement officer or a veteran who was honorably discharged as a member of the United States Armed Forces or National Guard and who received substantially equivalent training.

In addition, the amended bill requires any FPIC issued after the bill's effective date to display a color photograph and a thumb print of the card holder. A person who obtained a FPIC prior to the effective date of bill would not be required to obtain a firearm purchaser identification that displays a color photograph and a thumb print. The bill requires the Superintendent of State Police to establish guidelines necessary to effectuate the issuance of FPICs that display a color photograph and a thumb print of the card holder.

As amended, the bill provides that a firearms purchaser identification card issued or renewed after the bill's effective date

would expire during the tenth calendar year following its date of issuance and on the same calendar day as the card holder's date of birth. The bill further provides that a firearms purchaser identification card may be renewed if the holder is not subject to any of the statutory disabilities and after filing of a renewal application and payment of the required fee. A firearms purchaser identification card issued prior to the bill's effective date would not expire.

Under current law, a firearms purchaser identification card is valid indefinitely, unless the holder becomes subject to any of the disabilities that disqualify a person for firearms ownership.

#### COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amendments:

- 1) provide that the FPIC is to expire every ten years, instead of four;
- 2) provide that only FPICs issued after the bill's effective date are to expire; and
- 3) require any FPIC issued after the bill's effective date to display a color photograph and a thumb print of the card holder.

# Governor Murphy Signs Sweeping Gun Safety Package 3.0 to Continue the Fight Against Gun Violence

07/5/2022

*Comprehensive Reforms Further Solidify New Jersey as National Leader in Gun Safety*

**METUCHEN** – Governor Phil Murphy today signed a sweeping series of gun safety reforms to continue the fight against gun violence in New Jersey. Since taking office in 2018, Governor Murphy has been a champion of bold, commonsense gun reform, and signed significant gun safety packages in June 2018 and July 2019. Today, the Governor reaffirmed his commitment to reduce the epidemic of gun violence in New Jersey and signed seven comprehensive gun safety bills, six of which were part of his Gun Safety 3.0 package that he introduced to the Legislature in April 2021 and has repeatedly championed over the last year. These gun safety reforms further solidify New Jersey as a national leader in gun safety and deliver on the promise to make communities safer.

"In the wake of horrific mass shootings in Highland Park, Illinois, Uvalde Texas, and Buffalo, New York, it is necessary that we take action in order to protect our communities. I am proud to sign these bills today and thank my legislative partners for sending them to my desk," **said Governor Murphy**. "As I have said before, this is a huge step forward for commonsense gun safety and for safer communities. But it cannot be our only or last step. I look forward to continuing to work with the Legislature and take action to make this state safer for all."

"In New Jersey we understand what it takes to actually stop the vicious cycle of mass shootings and everyday gun violence in New Jersey. We do it by passing common sense gun safety laws that work," **said Lt. Governor Sheila Oliver, who serves as Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs**. "We cannot continue repeating the sentiment that there is nothing that can be done to end this scourge of gun violence. There is and we owe it to the next generation to sign common sense gun safety laws that cut the problem off at the source."

The seven gun safety reform bills include:

1. **A1765/S1893 (McKeon, Atkins, Jasey/Ruiz, Pou)** - Allows Attorney General to bring cause of action for certain public nuisance violations arising from sale or marketing of firearms.
2. **A1179/S1204 (Jasey, Swain, Jaffer/Cryan, Zwicker)** - Requires firearm owners who become New Jersey residents to obtain firearm purchaser identification card and register handguns acquired out-of-State.
3. **A4367/S2846 (McKeon, Greenwald/Scutari, Cryan)** - Upgrades certain crimes related to manufacturing firearms from third degree to second degree.
4. **A4366/S2905 (Atkins, Quijano/Scutari)** – Revises definition of destructive device to include certain .50 caliber rifles.
5. **A1302/S2903 (Greenwald, Reynolds-Jackson, Atkins/Cryan)** - Regulates sale of handgun ammunition and develops system of electronic reporting of handgun ammunition sales.\*
6. **A4370/S2906 (Reynolds-Jackson, Greenwald/Codey)** - Requires training for issuance of firearms purchaser identification card and permit to purchase handgun under certain circumstances; provides that firearms purchaser identification card include photograph and thumb print and remain valid for ten years.\*
7. **A4368/S2907 (Greenwald, McKeon/Codey)** - Requires firearm retailers to sell microstamping-enabled firearms upon determination of availability by AG.

"The legislation signed into law today provides New Jersey with robust tools to combat gun violence and hold accountable irresponsible gun dealers and manufacturers who profit from this bloodshed," **said Acting Attorney General Platkin**. "I thank Governor Murphy for his continued efforts to protect New Jersey residents from mass shootings and gun violence, even as the U.S. Supreme Court is doing its best to undermine those efforts. These new commonsense gun laws send a clear message that New Jersey will continue to serve as a model for states seeking to address the epidemic of gun violence."

"As criminals attempt to find new ways to circumvent the laws, we must adjust our tactics to keep illegal guns away from those individuals who have no regard for human life once the trigger is pulled," **said Colonel Patrick J. Callahan, Superintendent of the New Jersey State Police**. "Our efforts to limit gun violence must be comprehensive as we strive to protect the citizens of New Jersey. We will continue to work with the Governor's Office and the Office of Attorney General to keep our state safe."

"The threat of gun violence is a real and growing menace in our communities. These bills might not stop every gun crime, but they represent a thoughtful, common sense approach that will target areas of gun control in both the legal and illegal gun markets," **said Senate President Nicholas Scutari**. "They provide an opportunity to prevent gun violence and provide a safe overall environment for the public."

"New Jersey continues to lead the nation on fair and robust common-sense gun safety thanks to the Governor and Legislature's partnership that has made public safety a priority," **said Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin**. "With the signing of these decisive, common-sense measures designed to stop gun violence in its tracks, we are advancing our commitment to ensure people in every New Jersey community can feel more safe."

"Far too many families have been torn apart by gun violence. We cannot stand by and accept the fact that firearms are the leading cause of death for children in the United States. While we desperately need federal legislation, I am thankful that the Governor is signing these key measures into law today," **said Senate Majority Leader M. Teresa Ruiz**. "We must do everything we can to stop this, and by allowing the Attorney General to take action and seek damages for shootings here in New Jersey, we can start holding individuals accountable for their actions."

"The surge in gun violence has been horribly tragic, with lives lost, victims wounded and loved ones suffering heartbreak," **said Senator Joe Cryan, former Union County Sheriff**. "As public servants, we must continue to do all we can to keep deadly firearms out of the hands of those who pose a danger, off the streets, away from schools and out of our communities."

"By having Governor Murphy sign these sensible gun safety bills into law, we are taking responsible actions to help keep our communities safe," **said Senator Andrew Zwicker**. "Making sure that owners of firearms follow the laws and procedures for gun safety is important. We have some of the strongest gun laws in the country – we want every resident to follow them."

"This senseless gun violence has gone on long enough, and I am glad to see Governor Murphy moving quickly by signing these bills to make our streets, schools and neighborhoods safer. We cannot continue down the path we are now on," **said Senator Nellie Pou**. "If gun manufacturers or retailers act in ways that constitute a 'public nuisance' in the eyes of the Attorney General they should be held liable for appropriate penalties."

"As we have all seen recently, gun violence is a real and scary risk in our country and we have to act now to stop it," **said Senator Richard Codey**. "We must ensure that gun owners are aware of how to safely handle and store a firearm to better protect our residents from unnecessary harm. Additionally, by incorporating microstamping technology, law enforcement would have a critical aid that would assist them in tracking down weapons used in crimes. We have to do all that we can on God's green Earth to stop these shootings from occurring. Everyone needs to be held accountable, and if you misuse a firearm, you shouldn't be able to get away with it."

"Just as residents are required to register their vehicles with New Jersey's Motor Vehicle Commission when they first move here, gun owners will now be held to the same standards," **said Assemblywoman Mila Jasey**. "This commonsense law will ensure that every legally-obtained gun is registered in our state to promote greater safety in our communities. We are proud of the work we have accomplished in New Jersey to strengthen gun safety laws."

"Firearm registration not only promotes responsible gun ownership, but helps protect first responders by alerting them to the possible presence of a firearm before they arrive at the scene of an emergency," **said Assemblywoman Lisa Swain**. "These benefits cannot be fully realized unless every legal gun owner participates in our registration system, which is why this new law is so critical to ensuring the safety of residents throughout our state."

"Closing the loophole that allows new residents to own a gun without going through the process of registration will help keep our communities safe," **said Assemblywoman Sadaf Jaffer**. "This new law encourages responsible gun ownership by requiring new residents to register their guns."

"In New Jersey, almost 80 percent of guns used in crimes are originally purchased outside of the state. The gun industry has made little effort to help stem the flow of guns to the illegal market through gun shows, flea markets, straw purchasers, and theft," **said Assemblyman John McKeon**. "The industry, essentially, has not taken responsibility for its part in the increasing gun violence and its influence through product marketing. Gun violence is a public health threat. New Jersey must have the ability to seek appropriate remedies against members of the gun industry who knowingly or recklessly endanger the public health and safety. No one should get a pass when lives are on the line."

"Too many families in New Jersey have seen the impact of gun violence in their communities. While our law enforcement officers work tirelessly to hold perpetrators of violent crimes accountable for their actions, those responsible for manufacturing and selling firearms often go unpunished for their role in creating significant threats to public health and safety," **said Assemblyman Reginald**

**Atkins.** "Members of the gun industry who have knowingly and recklessly put the public in danger deserve to see consequences for their actions."

"In New Jersey, we continue to implement common-sense measures to reach our goal of ending gun violence once and for all," **said Assemblyman Louis D. Greenwald.** "Today, with these new laws, we take another calculated step toward stemming gun trafficking by ensuring accountability and proper record-keeping at the point of sale for ammunition, encouraging responsible gun ownership, and increasing penalties for the manufacturing of illegal firearms."

"We are looking at a steep rise in violent crimes in communities across the state. We see this right here in the City of Trenton," **said Assemblywoman Verlina Reynolds-Jackson.** "We must all work together in creating safer communities for the families and children who live there. These new laws will help us reach that goal."

"New technology and the make-it-at-home kits are making it way too easy for guns to get into the wrong hands," **said Assemblywoman Annette Quijano.** "The new law sends the appropriate message: New Jersey will not stand for it. If a person manufactures or possesses a ghost gun, or 3-D printed weapon or even buys the parts to make them, there will be additional penalties if convicted."

"Gun violence is a public health crisis that has taken its toll on many cities across the United States, including in New Jersey," **said Assemblyman Gary Schaeer.** "With these new laws, we take one more step toward ending senseless violence in our communities."

"Almost daily in New Jersey, communities witness family members, neighbors, and friends lose their lives to senseless gun violence," **said Assemblyman Benjie Wimberly.** "We must provide law enforcement and prosecutors with the tools necessary to deter violent gun crimes on our streets. Today signifies the next step in this process and moves toward safer communities for New Jersey families."

"The Gun Safety Package 3.0 is ground breaking change. It includes legislation that fills loopholes not only in NJ, but federally, by enabling the attorney general to hold gun manufacturers accountable for misconduct that causes harm in New Jersey. This is a huge step towards safer communities across the state and much needed accountability that has been denied for years due to PLCAA," **said Raisa Rubin-Stankiewicz, NJ State Policy Associate with March For Our Lives.** "At the same time, we know this is not the end of our work. We will continue working with the governor to make sure that more life-saving measures are passed, including establishing a standard for safe gun storage."

"In the face of political gridlock at the federal level, New Jersey proves that states will lead the way in fighting gun violence," **said David Hogg, co-founder of March For Our Lives.** "This comprehensive package of bills shows us that bold action on gun safety is possible and further solidifies New Jersey as a proving ground for commonsense legislation. More needs to be done, but states across the country should look to New Jersey as a model of gun safety. March For Our Lives is happy to have been a part of this work over the last year and we're deeply grateful to the legislature and to Governor Phil Murphy for their consistent and admirable leadership."

"New Jersey's leaders understand our fight to end gun violence is not over," **said Nico Bocour, Government Affairs Director of Giffords.** "The legislation signed today is the most comprehensive package championed in the country this year and will make the Garden State's gun laws even stronger. Senate President Nicholas Scutari, Senate Majority Leader Teresa Ruiz, Speaker Craig Coughlin, and Assembly Majority Leader Lou Greenwald have taken meaningful steps to further protect families and communities from the ongoing gun violence crisis. We thank New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy for demonstrating what it means to have the courage to act to prevent gun violence."

"New Jersey is once again leading where most of our nation has failed: taking aggressive steps to protect our families against gun violence," **said Bill Castner, Senior Advisor to the Governor on Firearms for the state of New Jersey.** "I am proud of Governor Murphy for signing these critical bills into law, especially for doing so in the backyard of key gun safety proponent Assembly Speaker Coughlin. We desperately need Washington to follow suit."

"This moment in our gun violence crisis calls for decisive action from our leaders to put the safety of our communities first," **said Jenifer Berrier Gonzalez, a volunteer with the New Jersey chapter of Moms Demand Action.** "These are wide-ranging, effective, and innovative reforms to help ensure that all New Jerseyans are kept safe. While there is still more work to be done, we appreciate Governor Murphy for continuing to fight for meaningful action to end gun violence and for signing this bill package into law — reaffirming New Jersey's status as a leader in the gun violence prevention movement."

"With the passing of these 7 gun safety bills, NJ shows its on-going commitment to the safety of its residents. Brady NJ, along with the other gun safety advocacy groups, is proud to have been part of this effort to work with the Governor and the legislators



to move these bills though to their signing today," said **Karen Kanter of Brady NJ**. "In response to the SCOTUS decision, we support the Governor's serious efforts to diminish its impact. Along with those efforts we hope that the safe storage bill and the age increase for long guns bill will also receive the same support from the legislature."

# Governor Murphy Delivers Remarks on Gun Safety Package 3.0

07/5/2022

## Remarks as Prepared for Delivery

Good morning, everyone.

Thank you, Mayor Jonathan Busch, for welcoming us to Metuchen and kicking things off for us. With me are Acting Attorney General Matt Platkin ...

State Police Superintendent Colonel Pat Callahan ...

Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, Senate Majority Leader Teresa Ruiz, Senator and former Governor Richard Codey, Senators Joe Cryan and Andrew Zwicker, Assemblyman John McKeon, Assemblywomen Annette Quijano, Verlina Reynolds Jackson, and Sadaf Jaffer ...

... And so many more tremendous advocates and voices for gun safety than I can mention without us all roasting under the sun.

Fourteen months ago, on April 15, 2021, we came together to unveil what we called our Gun Safety 3.0 package of legislation.

We did so because while we had made great progress in becoming one of the nation's top states for gun safety, we knew there was more to do. Every life lost to gun violence is one life too many.

On that same day, April 15, 2021, there were four mass-shootings in America, including an incident at a FedEx facility in Indianapolis, Indiana, in which eight people were senselessly murdered by a former coworker.

In the time since, there have been more than 870 mass shootings in America – Oxford, Michigan ... San Jose, California ... Buffalo, New York ... Uvalde, Texas ... and just yesterday, Highland Park, Illinois ... among hundreds and hundreds more – roughly two mass shootings every single day since we put forward our plan to help stop gun violence.

And, in New Jersey since April 15, 2021, there have been 1,271 total shootings in New Jersey – shootings which have claimed 291 lives and left 1,313 others injured.

There are those who think this is all just the price of living in the United States ...

There are those who take seriously the words of the satirical website, The Onion, “No Way To Prevent This,’ Says Only Nation Where This Regularly Happens” ...

... And, sadly, it appears six of these mistaken people sit on the United States Supreme Court.

We believe different. We believe – no, we know – that we can take on the epidemic of gun violence and win. We know we can put in place strong and smart gun safety laws that are consistent with the 2nd Amendment and still protect our communities.

And, surely, there were those who said we would never get the gun safety bills we supported through the Legislature. There were those who said that we were too ambitious, that the gun lobby was too strong, and that our political system would not have the will to take on and win this fight.

But, again, we believed different. And guess what? Today, we are making Gun Safety Package 3.0 the law.

First, and perhaps most important, we are enacting a public nuisance law that will allow our Attorney General to hold gun manufacturers and distributors responsible for the damage caused by the reckless unchecked marketing and sale of firearms.

We're also saying, in no uncertain terms, that if you want to buy a gun you need to first complete a certified safety course – no different than if you want to drive a car you have to get a license showing you know how to safely use it ...

The loophole that allowed gunowners moving into New Jersey to skirt the procedures that established New Jersey residents follow in order to qualify to purchase or obtain firearms is hereby closed ...

We are requiring that when microstamping technology is commercially viable, gun retailers must offer firearms equipped with this technology, with a financial incentive for customers to choose it. Microstamping leaves a one-of-a-kind imprint on every round of ammunition fired, so law enforcement can trace a specific round to a specific gun and identify perpetrators of gun violence ...

And we're finally requiring electronic record-keeping of all ammunition sold in New Jersey to help law enforcement monitor suspicious purchases and identify bad-apple dealers and straw purchasers ...

We're increasing the penalties on those who break our existing law prohibiting the manufacturing or transporting of ghost guns – because if you're creating or transferring these untraceable guns, you're not a "responsible gun owner," you're a criminal.

And, once and for all, we are banning the sale of .50 caliber weapons. I have often asked, who can seriously argue that a weapon that can take down a helicopter belongs on our streets? Sadly, one person who answered "yes" to that question was my predecessor, who vetoed this bill in 2013. Today, we reverse that terrible mistake.

These are now the laws of our land. They are commonsense. They are smart. They live up to our Jersey values. A poll released last week proved the overwhelming popularity of these laws among the people of New Jersey.

That same poll also showed that too many residents – especially parents with school-aged kids – live fearful of being the victim of gun violence.

So, these are not going to be our last words on gun safety. We cannot walk away from here today – none of us – thinking our job is done. Because it is not.

Not even two weeks ago, the right-wing majority that controls the United States Supreme Court erased our ability to decide for ourselves who can, and who can't, get a permit to carry a concealed weapon.

Not even two weeks ago, the right-wing majority that controls the United States Supreme Court erased our ability to decide for ourselves who can, and who can't, get a permit to carry a concealed weapon.

This past Thursday, they signaled their desire to revisit our ban on high-capacity magazines, telling the lower courts to look at it again. And they also told the lower courts to look anew at Maryland's prohibition of dozens of models of assault rifles, some of which are also banned here in New Jersey.

But we're not going to just lay down and let our streets, our houses of worship, our supermarkets and shopping malls, our sports arenas, our bars, or anywhere else be overrun with hidden guns capable of unleashing a hail of bullets.

I look forward to working with the Legislature to address this awful decision with strong and smart laws expanding the number of places where firearms cannot be carried and saying, without any doubt, that you can't bring your gun onto private property without explicit permission to do so.

In the face of the Supreme Court's tragic and wrong-headed ruling, we need those laws – and all of these laws – more than ever.

And, now more than ever, we cannot let up in the fight to keep our communities safe.

I have mentioned it before – New Jersey has one of the nation's lowest rates of gun violence and gun deaths because we are among the leaders in gun safety. I am not going to give up on always looking for new ways to save lives, protect communities, and ensure that every resident can live without fear.

And I know that none of you are going to give up, either.

I must extend a special thank you to Speaker Craig Coughlin, who stood with me in this very location last December and committed to getting these bills done. We would not be here today without your leadership and the work of your team, including Dan Harris and Mark Iaconelli, who worked closely with my team to get these bills over the finish line.

And I also want to thank Senate President Nick Scutari, who after taking the reins of the Senate in January, joined us in this journey and ensured that we would not respond to the horrors of Buffalo and Uvalde by doing nothing.

So, to the two leaders, and to every legislator with us today who voted on the right side of history, thank you. To all the members of law enforcement who stand with us for safer communities, thank you.

And, to all the folks from Everytown and Moms Demand Action, Giffords, Brady, March for Our Lives, Sandy Hook Promise, Ceasefire NJ, and the Rutgers Gun Violence Research Center ... from the Newark Street Team, Paterson Healing Collective, and Jersey City Together, on down to every community-based organization doing the hard work at street-level, thank you most of all!

Today is a day to celebrate. But it is not a day to rest on any laurels. Let's keep at it.

I cannot wait to sign these bills into law, but before I do, I want us to hear from some of the gun safety champions with us, starting with the Speaker of the General Assembly, Craig Coughlin.