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Yes

"More juvenile crimes will rule out NJ gun ownership", 5-7-2003 Philadelphia Inquirer, p. 35

"McGreevey signs gun control bill", 5-7-2003 Trenton Times , p.A4

"State adds to handgun exclusions", 5-7-2003 Star Ledger, p. 27

"Law adds to list of gun exclusions", 5-7-2003 The Record, p.A4

"New law expands gun controls," 5-7-2003 Trentonian, p.4

P.L. 2003, CHAPTER 73, *approved May 6, 2003*
Senate, No. 160 (*First Reprint*)

1 **AN ACT** concerning permits to purchase handguns and firearms
2 purchaser identification cards in certain cases and amending
3 N.J.S.2C:58-3.

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

7
8 1. N.J.S.2C:58-3 is amended to read as follows:

9 2C:58-3. Purchase of Firearms.

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

15 b. Firearms purchaser identification card. No person shall sell,
16 give, transfer, assign or otherwise dispose of nor receive, purchase or
17 otherwise acquire an antique cannon or a rifle or shotgun, other than
18 an antique rifle or shotgun, unless the purchaser, assignee, donee,
19 receiver or holder is licensed as a dealer under this chapter or
20 possesses a valid firearms purchaser identification card, and first
21 exhibits said card to the seller, donor, transferor or assignor, and
22 unless the purchaser, assignee, donee, receiver or holder signs a
23 written certification, on a form prescribed by the superintendent,
24 which shall indicate that he presently complies with the requirements
25 of subsection c. of this section and shall contain his name, address and
26 firearms purchaser identification card number or dealer's registration
27 number. The said certification shall be retained by the seller, as
28 provided in section 2C:58-2a., or, in the case of a person who is not
29 a dealer, it may be filed with the chief of police of the municipality in
30 which he resides or with the superintendent.

31 c. Who may obtain. No person of good character and good repute
32 in the community in which he lives, and who is not subject to any of
33 the disabilities set forth in this section or other sections of this chapter,
34 shall be denied a permit to purchase a handgun or a firearms purchaser
35 identification card, except as hereinafter set forth. No handgun
36 purchase permit or firearms purchaser identification card shall be
37 issued:

38 (1) To any person who has been convicted of a crime, whether or
39 not armed with or possessing a weapon at the time of such offense;

40 (2) To any drug dependent person as defined in section 2 of

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹ Assembly ALP committee amendments adopted January 9, 2003.

1 P.L.1970, c.226 (C.24:21-2), to any person who is confined for a
2 mental disorder to a hospital, mental institution or sanitarium, or to
3 any person who is presently an habitual drunkard;

4 (3) To any person who suffers from a physical defect or disease
5 which would make it unsafe for him to handle firearms, to any person
6 who has ever been confined for a mental disorder, or to any alcoholic
7 unless any of the foregoing persons produces a certificate of a medical
8 doctor or psychiatrist licensed in New Jersey, or other satisfactory
9 proof, that he is no longer suffering from that particular disability in
10 such a manner that would interfere with or handicap him in the
11 handling of firearms; to any person who knowingly falsifies any
12 information on the application form for a handgun purchase permit or
13 firearms purchaser identification card;

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

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

19 (6) To any person who is subject to a court order issued pursuant
20 to section 13 of P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-29) prohibiting the person
21 from possessing any firearm; or

22 (7) To any person who as a juvenile was adjudicated delinquent for
23 an offense which, if committed by an adult, would constitute a crime
24 and the offense involved the unlawful use or possession of a [firearm]
25 weapon, explosive or destructive device ¹or is enumerated in
26 subsection d. of section 2 of P.L.1997, c.117 (C:2C:43-7.2)¹.

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

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

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

36 The chief police officer or the superintendent shall obtain the
37 fingerprints of the applicant and shall have them compared with any
38 and all records of fingerprints in the municipality and county in which
39 the applicant resides and also the records of the State Bureau of
40 Identification and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, provided that
41 an applicant for a handgun purchase permit who possesses a valid
42 firearms purchaser identification card, or who has previously obtained
43 a handgun purchase permit from the same licensing authority for which
44 he was previously fingerprinted, and who provides other reasonably
45 satisfactory proof of his identity, need not be fingerprinted again;
46 however, the chief police officer or the superintendent shall proceed

1 to investigate the application to determine whether or not the applicant
2 has become subject to any of the disabilities set forth in this chapter.

3 f. Granting of permit or identification card; fee; term; renewal;
4 revocation. The application for the permit to purchase a handgun
5 together with a fee of \$2.00, or the application for the firearms
6 purchaser identification card together with a fee of \$5.00, shall be
7 delivered or forwarded to the licensing authority who shall investigate
8 the same and, unless good cause for the denial thereof appears, shall
9 grant the permit or the identification card, or both, if application has
10 been made therefor, within 30 days from the date of receipt of the
11 application for residents of this State and within 45 days for
12 nonresident applicants. A permit to purchase a handgun shall be valid
13 for a period of 90 days from the date of issuance and may be renewed
14 by the issuing authority for good cause for an additional 90 days. A
15 firearms purchaser identification card shall be valid until such time as
16 the holder becomes subject to any of the disabilities set forth in
17 subsection c. of this section, whereupon the card shall be void and
18 shall be returned within five days by the holder to the superintendent,
19 who shall then advise the licensing authority. Failure of the holder to
20 return the firearms purchaser identification card to the superintendent
21 within the said five days shall be an offense under section 2C:39-10a.
22 Any firearms purchaser identification card may be revoked by the
23 Superior Court of the county wherein the card was issued, after
24 hearing upon notice, upon a finding that the holder thereof no longer
25 qualifies for the issuance of such permit. The county prosecutor of
26 any county, the chief police officer of any municipality or any citizen
27 may apply to such court at any time for the revocation of such card.

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

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

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

1 and the fourth copy shall be kept by the seller as a permanent record.

2 i. Restriction on number of firearms person may purchase. Only
3 one handgun shall be purchased or delivered on each permit, but a
4 person shall not be restricted as to the number of rifles or shotguns he
5 may purchase, provided he possesses a valid firearms purchaser
6 identification card and provided further that he signs the certification
7 required in subsection b. of this section for each transaction.

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

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

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

32 (cf: P.L.2001, c.3, s.1)

33

34 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

35

36

37

38

39 _____
40 Disqualifies juvenile delinquents whose offenses involve use or
41 possession of a weapon, explosive or destructive device from
42 obtaining either a firearms purchaser identification card or a permit to
purchase a handgun.

SENATE, No. 160

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
210th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2002 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator RICHARD H. BAGGER

District 21 (Essex, Morris, Somerset and Union)

SYNOPSIS

Disqualifies juvenile delinquents whose offenses involve use or possession of a weapon, explosive or destructive device from obtaining either a firearms purchaser identification card or a permit to purchase a handgun.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



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2

1 **AN ACT** concerning permits to purchase handguns and firearms
2 purchaser identification cards in certain cases and amending
3 N.J.S.2C:58-3.

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5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
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11 transfer, assign or otherwise dispose of, nor receive, purchase, or
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14 secured a permit to purchase a handgun as provided by this section.

15 b. Firearms purchaser identification card. No person shall sell,
16 give, transfer, assign or otherwise dispose of nor receive, purchase or
17 otherwise acquire an antique cannon or a rifle or shotgun, other than
18 an antique rifle or shotgun, unless the purchaser, assignee, donee,
19 receiver or holder is licensed as a dealer under this chapter or
20 possesses a valid firearms purchaser identification card, and first
21 exhibits said card to the seller, donor, transferor or assignor, and
22 unless the purchaser, assignee, donee, receiver or holder signs a
23 written certification, on a form prescribed by the superintendent,
24 which shall indicate that he presently complies with the requirements
25 of subsection c. of this section and shall contain his name, address and
26 firearms purchaser identification card number or dealer's registration
27 number. The said certification shall be retained by the seller, as
28 provided in section 2C:58-2a., or, in the case of a person who is not
29 a dealer, it may be filed with the chief of police of the municipality in
30 which he resides or with the superintendent.

31 c. Who may obtain. No person of good character and good repute
32 in the community in which he lives, and who is not subject to any of
33 the disabilities set forth in this section or other sections of this chapter,
34 shall be denied a permit to purchase a handgun or a firearms purchaser
35 identification card, except as hereinafter set forth. No handgun
36 purchase permit or firearms purchaser identification card shall be
37 issued:

38 (1) To any person who has been convicted of a crime, whether or
39 not armed with or possessing a weapon at the time of such offense;

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

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 (3) To any person who suffers from a physical defect or disease
2 which would make it unsafe for him to handle firearms, to any person
3 who has ever been confined for a mental disorder, or to any alcoholic
4 unless any of the foregoing persons produces a certificate of a medical
5 doctor or psychiatrist licensed in New Jersey, or other satisfactory
6 proof, that he is no longer suffering from that particular disability in
7 such a manner that would interfere with or handicap him in the
8 handling of firearms; to any person who knowingly falsifies any
9 information on the application form for a handgun purchase permit or
10 firearms purchaser identification card;

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

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

16 (6) To any person who is subject to a court order issued pursuant
17 to section 13 of P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-29) prohibiting the person
18 from possessing any firearm; or

19 (7) To any person who as a juvenile was adjudicated delinquent for
20 an offense which, if committed by an adult, would constitute a crime
21 and the offense involved the unlawful use or possession of a [firearm]
22 weapon, explosive or destructive device.

23 d. Issuance. The chief of police of an organized full-time police
24 department of the municipality where the applicant resides or the
25 superintendent, in all other cases, shall upon application, issue to any
26 person qualified under the provisions of subsection c. of this section
27 a permit to purchase a handgun or a firearms purchaser identification
28 card.

29 Any person aggrieved by the denial of a permit or identification
30 card may request a hearing in the Superior Court of the county in
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32 Court of the county in which his application was filed if he is a
33 nonresident. The request for a hearing shall be made in writing within
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40 Superior Court. No formal pleading and no filing fee shall be required
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42 hearing shall be in accordance with law.

43 e. Applications. Applications for permits to purchase a handgun
44 and for firearms purchaser identification cards shall be in the form
45 prescribed by the superintendent and shall set forth the name,
46 residence, place of business, age, date of birth, occupation, sex and

1 physical description, including distinguishing physical characteristics,
2 if any, of the applicant, and shall state whether the applicant is a
3 citizen, whether he is an alcoholic, habitual drunkard, drug dependent
4 person as defined in section 2 of P.L.1970, c.226 (C.24:21-2), whether
5 he has ever been confined or committed to a mental institution or
6 hospital for treatment or observation of a mental or psychiatric
7 condition on a temporary, interim or permanent basis, giving the name
8 and location of the institution or hospital and the dates of such
9 confinement or commitment, whether he has been attended, treated or
10 observed by any doctor or psychiatrist or at any hospital or mental
11 institution on an inpatient or outpatient basis for any mental or
12 psychiatric condition, giving the name and location of the doctor,
13 psychiatrist, hospital or institution and the dates of such occurrence,
14 whether he presently or ever has been a member of any organization
15 which advocates or approves the commission of acts of force and
16 violence to overthrow the Government of the United States or of this
17 State, or which seeks to deny others their rights under the Constitution
18 of either the United States or the State of New Jersey, whether he has
19 ever been convicted of a crime or disorderly persons offense, whether
20 the person is subject to a court order issued pursuant to section 13 of
21 P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-29) prohibiting the person from possessing
22 any firearm, and such other information as the superintendent shall
23 deem necessary for the proper enforcement of this chapter. For the
24 purpose of complying with this subsection, the applicant shall waive
25 any statutory or other right of confidentiality relating to institutional
26 confinement. The application shall be signed by the applicant and shall
27 contain as references the names and addresses of two reputable
28 citizens personally acquainted with him. Application blanks shall be
29 obtainable from the superintendent, from any other officer authorized
30 to grant such permit or identification card, and from licensed retail
31 dealers.

32 The chief police officer or the superintendent shall obtain the
33 fingerprints of the applicant and shall have them compared with any
34 and all records of fingerprints in the municipality and county in which
35 the applicant resides and also the records of the State Bureau of
36 Identification and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, provided that
37 an applicant for a handgun purchase permit who possesses a valid
38 firearms purchaser identification card, or who has previously obtained
39 a handgun purchase permit from the same licensing authority for which
40 he was previously fingerprinted, and who provides other reasonably
41 satisfactory proof of his identity, need not be fingerprinted again;
42 however, the chief police officer or the superintendent shall proceed
43 to investigate the application to determine whether or not the applicant
44 has become subject to any of the disabilities set forth in this chapter.

45 f. Granting of permit or identification card; fee; term; renewal;
46 revocation. The application for the permit to purchase a handgun

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1 together with a fee of \$2.00, or the application for the firearms
2 purchaser identification card together with a fee of \$5.00, shall be
3 delivered or forwarded to the licensing authority who shall investigate
4 the same and, unless good cause for the denial thereof appears, shall
5 grant the permit or the identification card, or both, if application has
6 been made therefor, within 30 days from the date of receipt of the
7 application for residents of this State and within 45 days for
8 nonresident applicants. A permit to purchase a handgun shall be valid
9 for a period of 90 days from the date of issuance and may be renewed
10 by the issuing authority for good cause for an additional 90 days. A
11 firearms purchaser identification card shall be valid until such time as
12 the holder becomes subject to any of the disabilities set forth in
13 subsection c. of this section, whereupon the card shall be void and
14 shall be returned within five days by the holder to the superintendent,
15 who shall then advise the licensing authority. Failure of the holder to
16 return the firearms purchaser identification card to the superintendent
17 within the said five days shall be an offense under section 2C:39-10a.
18 Any firearms purchaser identification card may be revoked by the
19 Superior Court of the county wherein the card was issued, after
20 hearing upon notice, upon a finding that the holder thereof no longer
21 qualifies for the issuance of such permit. The county prosecutor of
22 any county, the chief police officer of any municipality or any citizen
23 may apply to such court at any time for the revocation of such card.

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

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

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

44 i. Restriction on number of firearms person may purchase. Only
45 one handgun shall be purchased or delivered on each permit, but a
46 person shall not be restricted as to the number of rifles or shotguns he

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1 may purchase, provided he possesses a valid firearms purchaser
2 identification card and provided further that he signs the certification
3 required in subsection b. of this section for each transaction.

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

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

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

28 (cf: P.L.2001, c.3, s.1)

29
30 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

31
32
33 **STATEMENT**

34
35 Under current law, a person is disqualified from ever obtaining a
36 firearms purchaser identification card or a permit to purchase a
37 handgun if, as a juvenile that person was adjudicated delinquent for an
38 offense which, if committed by an adult, would constitute a crime and
39 that offense involved the unlawful use or possession of a firearm.

40 This amendatory bill expands the scope of the disqualifying offense
41 from one which involved the unlawful use or possession of a firearm
42 to one which involved the unlawful use or possession of a weapon,
43 explosive or destructive device.

44 A weapon is defined in the statutes (N.J.S.2C:39-1) to mean
45 "anything readily capable of lethal use or of inflicting serious bodily
46 injury. The term includes, but is not limited to, all (1) firearms, even

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1 though not loaded or lacking a clip or other component to render them
2 immediately operable; (2) components which can be readily assembled
3 into a weapon; (3) gravity knives, switchblade knives, daggers, dirks,
4 stilettos, or other dangerous knives, billies, blackjacks, bludgeons,
5 metal knuckles, sandclubs, slingshots, cesti or similar leather bands
6 studded with metal filings or razor blades imbedded in wood; and (4)
7 stun guns; and any weapon or other device which projects, releases,
8 or emits tear gas or any other substance intended to produce
9 temporary physical discomfort or permanent injury through being
10 vaporized or otherwise dispensed in the air."

11 An "explosive" is defined as "any chemical compound or mixture
12 that is commonly used or is possessed for the purpose of producing an
13 explosion and which contains any oxidizing and combustible materials
14 or other ingredients in such proportions, quantities or packing that an
15 ignition by fire, by friction, by concussion or by detonation of any part
16 of the compound or mixture may cause such a sudden generation of
17 highly heated gases that the resultant gaseous pressures are capable of
18 producing destructive effects on contiguous objects. The term shall
19 not include small arms ammunition, or explosives in the form
20 prescribed by the official United States Pharmacopoeia."

21 A "destructive device" means "device, instrument or object
22 designed to explode or produce uncontrolled combustion, including
23 (1) any explosive or incendiary bomb, mine or grenade; (2) any rocket
24 having a propellant charge of more than four ounces or any missile
25 having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter of
26 an ounce; (3) any weapon capable of firing a projectile of a caliber
27 greater than 60 caliber, except a shotgun or shotgun ammunition
28 generally recognized as suitable for sporting purposes; (4) any
29 Molotov cocktail or other device consisting of a breakable container
30 containing flammable liquid and having a wick or similar device
31 capable of being ignited. The term does not include any device
32 manufactured for the purpose of illumination, distress signaling,
33 line-throwing, safety or similar purposes."

ASSEMBLY LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 160

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 9, 2003

The Assembly Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 160.

As amended and released by the committee, Senate Bill No. 160 disqualifies a person from obtaining a firearms purchaser identification card or permit to purchase a handgun if, as a juvenile, the person was adjudicated delinquent for an offense which, if committed by an adult, would constitute a crime and the offense: 1) involves the unlawful use or possession of a weapon, explosive or destructive device or 2) constitutes a crime enumerated in the No Early Release Act (NERA), P.L.1997, c.117 (C:2C-43-7.2). The NERA crimes include: murder; aggravated manslaughter or manslaughter; vehicular homicide; aggravated assault; disarming a law enforcement officer; kidnapping; aggravated sexual assault; sexual assault; robbery; carjacking; aggravated arson; burglary; extortion; booby traps in manufacturing or distribution facilities; strict liability for drug induced deaths; terrorism; or producing or possessing chemical weapons, biological agents or nuclear or radiological devices.

Current law disqualifies a person from obtaining an identification card or a permit if, as a juvenile, that person was adjudicated delinquent for an offense which, if committed by an adult, would constitute a crime and that offense involved the unlawful use or possession of a firearm.

A weapon is defined in the statutes (N.J.S.2C:39-1) to mean "anything readily capable of lethal use or of inflicting serious bodily injury." The term includes, but is not limited to, all (1) firearms, even though not loaded or lacking a clip or other component to render them immediately operable; (2) components which can be readily assembled into a weapon; (3) gravity knives, switchblade knives, daggers, dirks, stilettos, or other dangerous knives, billies, blackjacks, bludgeons, metal knuckles, sandclubs, slingshots, cesti or similar leather bands studded with metal filings or razor blades imbedded in wood; and (4) stun guns; and any weapon or other device which projects, releases, or emits tear gas or any other substance intended to produce temporary physical discomfort or permanent injury through being vaporized or otherwise dispensed in the air.

An "explosive" is defined as "any chemical compound or mixture that is commonly used or is possessed for the purpose of producing an explosion and which contains any oxidizing and combustible materials or other ingredients in such proportions, quantities or packing that an ignition by fire, by friction, by concussion or by detonation of any part of the compound or mixture may cause such a sudden generation of highly heated gases that the resultant gaseous pressures are capable of producing destructive effects on contiguous objects. The term shall not include small arms ammunition, or explosives in the form prescribed by the official United States Pharmacopoeia."

A "destructive device" means "any device, instrument or object designed to explode or produce uncontrolled combustion, including (1) any explosive or incendiary bomb, mine or grenade; (2) any rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces or any missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter of an ounce; (3) any weapon capable of firing a projectile of a caliber greater than 60 caliber, except a shotgun or shotgun ammunition generally recognized as suitable for sporting purposes; (4) any Molotov cocktail or other device consisting of a breakable container containing flammable liquid and having a wick or similar device capable of being ignited. The term does not include any device manufactured for the purpose of illumination, distress signaling, line-throwing, safety or similar purposes."

This bill, as amended and reported by the committee, is identical to Assembly Bill No. 3150, also amended and reported by the committee on this same date.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill to also disqualify a person from obtaining a firearms purchaser identification card or permit to purchase a handgun if, as a juvenile, the person was adjudicated delinquent for an offense which, if committed by an adult, constitutes any of the crimes enumerated in subsection d. of section 2 of P.L.1997, c.117 (C:2C-43-7.2), the No Early Release Act. The bill, as introduced, would have disqualified persons from obtaining an identification card or permit only if they were adjudicated delinquent for an offense that involved the unlawful use or possession of a weapon or an explosive or destructive device.

SENATE LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY AND VETERANS'
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 160

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 30, 2002

The Senate Law and Public Safety and Veterans' Affairs Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 160.

Under current law, a person is disqualified from ever obtaining a firearms purchaser identification card or a permit to purchase a handgun if, as a juvenile, that person was adjudicated delinquent for an offense which, if committed by an adult, would constitute a crime and that offense involved the unlawful use or possession of a firearm.

This amendatory bill expands the scope of the disqualifying offense from one which involved the unlawful use or possession of a firearm to one which involved the unlawful use or possession of a weapon, explosive or destructive device.

A weapon is defined in the statutes (N.J.S.2C:39-1) to mean "anything readily capable of lethal use or of inflicting serious bodily injury." The term includes, but is not limited to, all (1) firearms, even though not loaded or lacking a clip or other component to render them immediately operable; (2) components which can be readily assembled into a weapon; (3) gravity knives, switchblade knives, daggers, dirks, stilettos, or other dangerous knives, billies, blackjacks, bludgeons, metal knuckles, sandclubs, slingshots, cesti or similar leather bands studded with metal filings or razor blades imbedded in wood; and (4) stun guns; and any weapon or other device which projects, releases, or emits tear gas or any other substance intended to produce temporary physical discomfort or permanent injury through being vaporized or otherwise dispensed in the air."

An "explosive" is defined as "any chemical compound or mixture that is commonly used or is possessed for the purpose of producing an explosion and which contains any oxidizing and combustible materials or other ingredients in such proportions, quantities or packing that an ignition by fire, by friction, by concussion or by detonation of any part of the compound or mixture may cause such a sudden generation of highly heated gases that the resultant gaseous pressures are capable of producing destructive effects on contiguous objects. The term shall not include small arms ammunition, or explosives in the form prescribed by the official United States Pharmacopoeia."

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designed to explode or produce uncontrolled combustion, including (1) any explosive or incendiary bomb, mine or grenade; (2) any rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces or any missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter of an ounce; (3) any weapon capable of firing a projectile of a caliber greater than 60 caliber, except a shotgun or shotgun ammunition generally recognized as suitable for sporting purposes; (4) any Molotov cocktail or other device consisting of a breakable container containing flammable liquid and having a wick or similar device capable of being ignited. The term does not include any device manufactured for the purpose of illumination, distress signaling, line-throwing, safety or similar purposes."

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2002 legislative session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

ASSEMBLY, No. 3150

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 210th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 9, 2003

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman GARY L. GUEAR, SR.

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Assemblywoman LINDA R. GREENSTEIN

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

SYNOPSIS

Disqualifies juvenile delinquents whose offenses involve use or possession of a weapon, explosive or destructive device from obtaining either a firearms purchaser identification card or a permit to purchase a handgun.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning permits to purchase handguns and firearms
2 purchaser identification cards in certain cases and amending
3 N.J.S.2C:58-3.

4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:

7

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

9 2C:58-3. Purchase of Firearms.

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

15 b. Firearms purchaser identification card. No person shall sell,
16 give, transfer, assign or otherwise dispose of nor receive, purchase or
17 otherwise acquire an antique cannon or a rifle or shotgun, other than
18 an antique rifle or shotgun, unless the purchaser, assignee, donee,
19 receiver or holder is licensed as a dealer under this chapter or
20 possesses a valid firearms purchaser identification card, and first
21 exhibits said card to the seller, donor, transferor or assignor, and
22 unless the purchaser, assignee, donee, receiver or holder signs a
23 written certification, on a form prescribed by the superintendent,
24 which shall indicate that he presently complies with the requirements
25 of subsection c. of this section and shall contain his name, address and
26 firearms purchaser identification card number or dealer's registration
27 number. The said certification shall be retained by the seller, as
28 provided in section 2C:58-2a., or, in the case of a person who is not
29 a dealer, it may be filed with the chief of police of the municipality in
30 which he resides or with the superintendent.

31 c. Who may obtain. No person of good character and good repute
32 in the community in which he lives, and who is not subject to any of
33 the disabilities set forth in this section or other sections of this chapter,
34 shall be denied a permit to purchase a handgun or a firearms purchaser
35 identification card, except as hereinafter set forth. No handgun
36 purchase permit or firearms purchaser identification card shall be
37 issued:

38 (1) To any person who has been convicted of a crime, whether or
39 not armed with or possessing a weapon at the time of such offense;

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

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 (3) To any person who suffers from a physical defect or disease
2 which would make it unsafe for him to handle firearms, to any person
3 who has ever been confined for a mental disorder, or to any alcoholic
4 unless any of the foregoing persons produces a certificate of a medical
5 doctor or psychiatrist licensed in New Jersey, or other satisfactory
6 proof, that he is no longer suffering from that particular disability in
7 such a manner that would interfere with or handicap him in the
8 handling of firearms; to any person who knowingly falsifies any
9 information on the application form for a handgun purchase permit or
10 firearms purchaser identification card;

11 (4) To any person under the age of 18 years for a firearms
12 purchaser identification card and to any person under the age of
13 21 years for a permit to purchase a handgun;

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

16 (6) To any person who is subject to a court order issued pursuant
17 to section 13 of P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-29) prohibiting the person
18 from possessing any firearm; or

19 (7) To any person who as a juvenile was adjudicated delinquent for
20 an offense which, if committed by an adult, would constitute a crime
21 and the offense involved the unlawful use or possession of a [firearm]
22 weapon, explosive or destructive device.

23 d. Issuance. The chief of police of an organized full-time police
24 department of the municipality where the applicant resides or the
25 superintendent, in all other cases, shall upon application, issue to any
26 person qualified under the provisions of subsection c. of this section
27 a permit to purchase a handgun or a firearms purchaser identification
28 card.

29 Any person aggrieved by the denial of a permit or identification
30 card may request a hearing in the Superior Court of the county in
31 which he resides if he is a resident of New Jersey or in the Superior
32 Court of the county in which his application was filed if he is a
33 nonresident. The request for a hearing shall be made in writing within
34 30 days of the denial of the application for a permit or identification
35 card. The applicant shall serve a copy of his request for a hearing
36 upon the chief of police of the municipality in which he resides, if he
37 is a resident of New Jersey, and upon the superintendent in all cases.
38 The hearing shall be held and a record made thereof within 30 days of
39 the receipt of the application for such hearing by the judge of the
40 Superior Court. No formal pleading and no filing fee shall be required
41 as a preliminary to such hearing. Appeals from the results of such
42 hearing shall be in accordance with law.

43 e. Applications. Applications for permits to purchase a handgun
44 and for firearms purchaser identification cards shall be in the form
45 prescribed by the superintendent and shall set forth the name,
46 residence, place of business, age, date of birth, occupation, sex and

1 physical description, including distinguishing physical characteristics,
2 if any, of the applicant, and shall state whether the applicant is a
3 citizen, whether he is an alcoholic, habitual drunkard, drug dependent
4 person as defined in section 2 of P.L.1970, c.226 (C.24:21-2), whether
5 he has ever been confined or committed to a mental institution or
6 hospital for treatment or observation of a mental or psychiatric
7 condition on a temporary, interim or permanent basis, giving the name
8 and location of the institution or hospital and the dates of such
9 confinement or commitment, whether he has been attended, treated or
10 observed by any doctor or psychiatrist or at any hospital or mental
11 institution on an inpatient or outpatient basis for any mental or
12 psychiatric condition, giving the name and location of the doctor,
13 psychiatrist, hospital or institution and the dates of such occurrence,
14 whether he presently or ever has been a member of any organization
15 which advocates or approves the commission of acts of force and
16 violence to overthrow the Government of the United States or of this
17 State, or which seeks to deny others their rights under the Constitution
18 of either the United States or the State of New Jersey, whether he has
19 ever been convicted of a crime or disorderly persons offense, whether
20 the person is subject to a court order issued pursuant to section 13 of
21 P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-29) prohibiting the person from possessing
22 any firearm, and such other information as the superintendent shall
23 deem necessary for the proper enforcement of this chapter. For the
24 purpose of complying with this subsection, the applicant shall waive
25 any statutory or other right of confidentiality relating to institutional
26 confinement. The application shall be signed by the applicant and shall
27 contain as references the names and addresses of two reputable
28 citizens personally acquainted with him. Application blanks shall be
29 obtainable from the superintendent, from any other officer authorized
30 to grant such permit or identification card, and from licensed retail
31 dealers.

32 The chief police officer or the superintendent shall obtain the
33 fingerprints of the applicant and shall have them compared with any
34 and all records of fingerprints in the municipality and county in which
35 the applicant resides and also the records of the State Bureau of
36 Identification and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, provided that
37 an applicant for a handgun purchase permit who possesses a valid
38 firearms purchaser identification card, or who has previously obtained
39 a handgun purchase permit from the same licensing authority for which
40 he was previously fingerprinted, and who provides other reasonably
41 satisfactory proof of his identity, need not be fingerprinted again;
42 however, the chief police officer or the superintendent shall proceed
43 to investigate the application to determine whether or not the applicant
44 has become subject to any of the disabilities set forth in this chapter.

45 f. Granting of permit or identification card; fee; term; renewal;
46 revocation. The application for the permit to purchase a handgun

1 together with a fee of \$2.00, or the application for the firearms
2 purchaser identification card together with a fee of \$5.00, shall be
3 delivered or forwarded to the licensing authority who shall investigate
4 the same and, unless good cause for the denial thereof appears, shall
5 grant the permit or the identification card, or both, if application has
6 been made therefor, within 30 days from the date of receipt of the
7 application for residents of this State and within 45 days for
8 nonresident applicants. A permit to purchase a handgun shall be valid
9 for a period of 90 days from the date of issuance and may be renewed
10 by the issuing authority for good cause for an additional 90 days. A
11 firearms purchaser identification card shall be valid until such time as
12 the holder becomes subject to any of the disabilities set forth in
13 subsection c. of this section, whereupon the card shall be void and
14 shall be returned within five days by the holder to the superintendent,
15 who shall then advise the licensing authority. Failure of the holder to
16 return the firearms purchaser identification card to the superintendent
17 within the said five days shall be an offense under section 2C:39-10a.
18 Any firearms purchaser identification card may be revoked by the
19 Superior Court of the county wherein the card was issued, after
20 hearing upon notice, upon a finding that the holder thereof no longer
21 qualifies for the issuance of such permit. The county prosecutor of
22 any county, the chief police officer of any municipality or any citizen
23 may apply to such court at any time for the revocation of such card.

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

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

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

44 i. Restriction on number of firearms person may purchase. Only
45 one handgun shall be purchased or delivered on each permit, but a
46 person shall not be restricted as to the number of rifles or shotguns he

1 may purchase, provided he possesses a valid firearms purchaser
2 identification card and provided further that he signs the certification
3 required in subsection b. of this section for each transaction.

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

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

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

28 (cf: P.L.2001, c.3, s.1)

29
30 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

31
32
33 STATEMENT

34
35 Under current law, a person is disqualified from ever obtaining a
36 firearms purchaser identification card or a permit to purchase a
37 handgun if, as a juvenile, that person was adjudicated delinquent for
38 an offense which, if committed by an adult, would constitute a crime
39 and that offense involved the unlawful use or possession of a firearm.

40 The bill expands the scope of the disqualifying offense from one
41 which involved the unlawful use or possession of a firearm to one
42 which involved the unlawful use or possession of a weapon, explosive
43 or destructive device.

44 A weapon is defined in the statutes (N.J.S.2C:39-1) to mean
45 "anything readily capable of lethal use or of inflicting serious bodily
46 injury." The term includes, but is not limited to, all (1) firearms, even

1 though not loaded or lacking a clip or other component to render them
2 immediately operable; (2) components which can be readily assembled
3 into a weapon; (3) gravity knives, switchblade knives, daggers, dirks,
4 stilettos, or other dangerous knives, billies, blackjacks, bludgeons,
5 metal knuckles, sandclubs, slingshots, cesti or similar leather bands
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29 Molotov cocktail or other device consisting of a breakable container
30 containing flammable liquid and having a wick or similar device
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32 manufactured for the purpose of illumination, distress signaling,
33 line-throwing, safety or similar purposes."

ASSEMBLY LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 3150

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 9, 2003

The Assembly Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 3150.

As amended and released by the committee, Assembly Bill No. 3150 disqualifies a person from obtaining a firearms purchaser identification card or permit to purchase a handgun if, as a juvenile, the person was adjudicated delinquent for an offense which, if committed by an adult, would constitute a crime and the offense: 1) involves the unlawful use or possession of a weapon, explosive or destructive device or 2) constitutes a crime enumerated in the No Early Release Act (NERA), P.L.1997, c.117 (C:2C-43-7.2). The NERA crimes include: murder; aggravated manslaughter or manslaughter; vehicular homicide; aggravated assault; disarming a law enforcement officer; kidnapping; aggravated sexual assault; sexual assault; robbery; carjacking; aggravated arson; burglary; extortion; booby traps in manufacturing or distribution facilities; strict liability for drug induced deaths; terrorism; or producing or possessing chemical weapons, biological agents or nuclear or radiological devices.

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This bill, as amended and reported by the committee, is identical to Senate Bill No. 160, also amended and reported by the committee on this same date.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill to also disqualify a person from obtaining a firearms purchaser identification card or permit to purchase a handgun if, as a juvenile, the person was adjudicated delinquent for an offense which, if committed by an adult, constitutes any of the crimes enumerated in subsection d. of section 2 of P.L.1997, c.117 (C:2C-43-7.2), the No Early Release Act. The bill, as introduced, would have disqualified persons from obtaining an identification card or permit only if they were adjudicated delinquent for an offense that involved the unlawful use or possession of a weapon or an explosive or destructive device.



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RELEASE: May 06, 2003

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McGreevey Signs Gun Control Legislation as Early Mothers Day Gift

(TRENTON) – Continuing New Jersey’s pioneering gun control efforts, Governor James E. McGreevey today signed legislation to further protect the state’s citizens from gun violence.

“Common sense dictates that we keep guns out of the hands of those who simply shouldn’t have them,” said Governor McGreevey. “Today, we are broadening the scope of previous legislation to do just that.”

Governor McGreevey was joined by members of *The Million Mom March united with the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence* and *CeasefireNJ*.

“This is about the safety of our communities and our responsibility to our children,” said Governor McGreevey. “We must put an end to gun violence and take back our streets from those who would use guns to commit criminal acts. And, we must ensure that no more families are torn apart by senseless gun violence.”

Currently, a person is disqualified from buying a handgun if - as a juvenile – he or she used a firearm while committing an offense. This bill expands disqualification to include those offenses involving the unlawful use or possession of a weapon, explosive or destructive device. The bill also expands the disqualifying offenses to include serious violent crimes such as robbery, carjacking, aggravated assault and kidnapping.

"This administration will fight to keep guns out of the wrong hands," said Governor McGreevey. "We will continue to lead the nation, as we work to decrease the number of people who die each year as a result of firearms. This legislation is another step in the right direction."

"We are ensuring the public's safety by keeping guns out of the hands of people who have committed violent crimes in the past," said Assembly Assistant Majority Leader Linda Greenstein (D-Middlesex). "Aberrant behavior as a juvenile signals they may pose a threat as adults."

"In New Jersey, we take weapons offenses seriously - by both adults and children," said Assemblyman Gary Guear Sr (D-Middlesex). "Young people need to know they must face the consequences if they participate in that type of behavior."

"Once again, the State of New Jersey takes the lead in securing a safer tomorrow for our children and families by implementing the 'Juvenile Brady' law," said Christine O'Brien of *The Million Mom March united with the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence*. "Governor McGreevey recognizes that senseless tragedies resulting from gun violence cripple our communities. This law will help with deterring future firearm calamities. As we approach the third anniversary of the Million Mom March, I can not think of a better Mother's Day gift."

"CeasefireNJ and the citizens of the state are thrilled that Governor McGreevey is once again taking the lead in moving our state to a safer place," said Bryan Miller, Executive Director of CeasefireNJ. "His concern for the safety of New Jersey's homes, schools and communities from gun violence is unprecedented and we are grateful"

New Jersey has a long history of implementing common-sense gun legislation. Since 1966, the state has had the strongest gun licensing and registration system in the entire nation. While in the State Assembly, McGreevey was a staunch supporter of the landmark Assault Weapons Ban that was passed in 1990. New Jersey was the first state to pass the ban and the rest of the nation soon followed suit.

The McGreevey administration remains steadfast in its commitment to tough, sensible gun control legislation. Last month, Governor McGreevey ordered all state law enforcement agencies to destroy their outdated guns, so they don't turn up back on the street.

Last December, Governor McGreevey signed legislation requiring new handguns to be equipped with smart gun technology. This revolutionary technology will allow only the gun's recognized user to fire the weapon.

Last October - following the indictment and arrest of 41 alleged members of the dangerous Latin Kings street gang - Acting Attorney General Peter Harvey established the Gangs, Guns and Drugs initiative. This will help in the investigation and prosecution of gang-related drug and gun crimes in targeted cities across New Jersey.

(Photos and audio and video clips from Governor McGreevey's press conferences are available on the Governor's web page at <http://www.state.nj.us/governor/>. Links are located in the Governor's Newsroom section of the page.)

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