



House of Representatives

File No. 819

General Assembly

January Session, 2025

(Reprint of File No. 766)

Substitute House Bill No. 7042
As Amended by House Amendment
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
May 2, 2025

**AN ACT CONCERNING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FIREARM
INDUSTRY RESPONSIBILITY ACT, FIREARMS PERMITS AND
ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATES AND SELF-DEFENSE.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025, and applicable to any civil*
2 *action filed on or after said date*) As used in this section and sections 2 and
3 3 of this act:

4 (1) "Firearm industry member" means a person, firm, corporation,
5 company, partnership, society, joint stock company, trade association,
6 or any other entity or association engaged in the manufacture,
7 distribution, importation, marketing, wholesale or retail sale of firearm
8 industry products.

9 (2) "Firearm industry product" means any of the following which are
10 or were (A) sold, made or distributed in this state; or (B) possessed in
11 this state and it was known by the firearm industry member that such

- 12 product would be sold, made, distributed or possessed in this state:
- 13 (i) Ammunition or a magazine as those terms are defined in section
14 29-38m of the general statutes;
- 15 (ii) A firearm as defined in section 53a-3 of the general statutes;
- 16 (iii) An unfinished frame or lower receiver as defined in section 53-
17 206j of the general statutes; or
- 18 (iv) A rate of firearm enhancement as defined in section 53-206g of
19 the general statutes.
- 20 (3) "Firearm trafficker" means an individual who engages in,
21 conspires to engage in, or attempts to engage in conduct that constitutes
22 firearms trafficking as described in section 53-202aa of the general
23 statutes or trafficking in firearms as described in 18 USC 933.
- 24 (4) "Reasonable controls" means procedures, acts and practices that
25 are designed, implemented and enforced to do all of the following:
- 26 (A) Prevent the sale or distribution in this state of a firearm industry
27 product to a straw purchaser, a firearm trafficker, a person prohibited
28 from possessing a firearm under state or federal law, or a person about
29 whom a firearm industry member has reasonable cause to believe such
30 person is at substantial risk of using a firearm industry product to harm
31 themselves or another or of possessing or using a firearm industry product
32 unlawfully.
- 33 (B) Ensure compliance with sections 29-28, as amended by this act,
34 29-36f, as amended by this act, 29-37p, as amended by this act, and 29-
35 38n of the general statutes, as applicable.
- 36 (C) Prevent the sale or distribution in this state of a firearm industry
37 product that is designed in a manner that is reasonably foreseeable to
38 promote conversion of a legal firearm industry product into an illegal
39 firearm industry product.

40 (D) Ensure compliance with section 2 of this act.

41 (5) "Straw purchaser" means an individual who engages in or
42 attempts to engage in conduct that violates subsection (a) of section 29-
43 34 of the general statutes, section 29-37e of the general statutes or 18 USC
44 932.

45 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025, and applicable to any civil action*
46 *filed on or after said date*) (a) A firearm industry member shall establish,
47 implement and enforce reasonable controls.

48 (b) No firearm industry member shall provide a firearm industry
49 product to another firearm industry member when the firearm industry
50 member has reasonable cause to believe that such other firearm industry
51 member is engaged in conduct that is in violation of this section.

52 (c) No firearm industry member shall purposely and knowingly
53 direct its advertising, marketing or promotions of firearm industry
54 products in this state in a manner that it knows would promote
55 unlawful sales, promote unlawful use or promote unreasonable risk to
56 public safety.

57 (d) No firearm industry member shall knowingly violate state or
58 federal law relating to the manufacture, distribution, importation,
59 marketing, wholesale or retail sale of firearm industry products.

60 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025, and applicable to any civil action*
61 *filed on or after said date*) (a) An act or omission by a firearm industry
62 member that fails to comply with any provision of section 2 of this act
63 constitutes a violation of said section and shall be actionable under this
64 section.

65 (b) Such action may be brought in the superior court for the judicial
66 district where the act, omission or harm is alleged to have occurred by:

67 (1) A person who has suffered harm in this state because of a firearm
68 industry member's violation of section 2 of this act;

69 (2) The corporation counsel or other chief legal officer of a
70 municipality in the name of the municipality; or

71 (3) The Attorney General in the name of the state.

72 (c) Any person bringing an action pursuant to subdivision (1) or (2)
73 of subsection (b) of this section shall provide notice of such action to the
74 Attorney General not later than thirty days after the date of filing such
75 action.

76 (d) If a court determines that a firearm industry member has violated
77 any provision of section 2 of this act, the court may award any or all of
78 the following:

79 (1) Injunctive relief sufficient to prevent the firearm industry member
80 and any other defendant from further violating the law.

81 (2) Compensatory damages.

82 (3) Punitive damages.

83 (4) Restitution.

84 (5) Costs and reasonable attorney's fees.

85 (6) Any other appropriate relief necessary to enforce the provisions
86 of chapter 529 of the general statutes and remedy the harm caused by
87 the conduct.

88 Sec. 4. Subsection (b) of section 29-28 of the general statutes is
89 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
90 *1, 2025*):

91 (b) Upon the application of any person having a bona fide permanent
92 residence within the jurisdiction of any such authority, such chief of
93 police or, where there is no chief of police, such chief executive officer,
94 as defined in section 7-193, or, if designated by such chief executive
95 officer, a resident state trooper or state police officer, as applicable, may

96 issue a temporary state permit to such person to carry a pistol or
97 revolver within the state, provided such authority shall find that such
98 applicant intends to make no use of any pistol or revolver which such
99 applicant may be permitted to carry under such permit other than a
100 lawful use and that such person is a suitable person to receive such
101 permit. Such applicant shall submit to a state and national criminal
102 history records check in accordance with section 29-17a. If the applicant
103 has a bona fide permanent residence within the jurisdiction of any
104 federally recognized Native American tribe within the borders of the
105 state, and such tribe has a law enforcement unit, as defined in section 7-
106 294a, the chief of police of such law enforcement unit may issue a
107 temporary state permit to such person pursuant to the provisions of this
108 subsection, and any chief of police of any other law enforcement unit
109 having jurisdiction over an area containing such person's bona fide
110 permanent residence shall not issue such temporary state permit if such
111 tribal law enforcement unit accepts applications for temporary state
112 permits. Such applicant shall submit to a state and national criminal
113 history records check in accordance with section 29-17a. No state or
114 temporary state permit to carry a pistol or revolver shall be issued under
115 this subsection if the applicant: (1) (A) For any application filed prior to
116 July 1, 2024, has failed to successfully complete a course approved by
117 the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in the
118 safety and use of pistols and revolvers including, but not limited to, a
119 safety or training course in the use of pistols and revolvers available to
120 the public offered by a law enforcement agency, a private or public
121 educational institution or a firearms training school, utilizing instructors
122 certified by the National Rifle Association or the Department of Energy
123 and Environmental Protection and a safety or training course in the use
124 of pistols or revolvers conducted by an instructor certified by the state
125 or the National Rifle Association, and (B) for any application filed on or
126 after July 1, 2024, has failed to successfully complete, not earlier than
127 two years prior to the submission of such application, a course approved
128 by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in
129 the safety and use of firearms, which courses may include those certified
130 by the National Rifle Association or other organizations, conducted by

131 an instructor certified by the National Rifle Association or by the state,
132 provided any such course includes instruction in state law requirements
133 pertaining to safe storage in the home and in vehicles, lawful use of
134 firearms and lawful carrying of firearms in public. Any person wishing
135 to provide such course, may apply in the form and manner prescribed
136 by the commissioner. The commissioner shall approve or deny any
137 application for provision of such a course not later than July 1, 2024, in
138 the case of an application submitted before October 1, 2023; (2) has been
139 convicted of (A) a felony, or (B) (i) a misdemeanor violation of section
140 21a-279 on or after October 1, 2015, [or (C)] (ii) a misdemeanor violation
141 of section 53a-58, 53a-61, 53a-61a, 53a-62, 53a-63, 53a-96, 53a-175, 53a-
142 176, 53a-178 or 53a-181d during the preceding [twenty] eight years, [or]
143 (iii) a misdemeanor violation of any law of this state that has been
144 designated as a family violence crime pursuant to section 46b-38h, or
145 (iv) a misdemeanor violation in another state, a federal, tribal or military
146 court or any foreign jurisdiction during the preceding eight years that a
147 reasonable reviewer would believe to constitute (I) any crime of violence
148 against another person causing physical injury, (II) any crime that with
149 extreme indifference to human life creates a risk of serious physical
150 injury or with criminal negligence causes the death of another person
151 other than by a motor vehicle, (III) any crime that by physical threat or
152 course of conduct causes another person to reasonably fear for such
153 person's safety, (IV) any crime involving engaging in or inciting a riot,
154 or (V) possession of a controlled substance or hallucinogenic substance,
155 each as defined in section 21a-240, other than less than four ounces of
156 cannabis, less than one-half ounce of psilocybin or nicotine; (3) has been
157 convicted as delinquent for the commission of a serious juvenile offense,
158 as defined in section 46b-120; (4) has been discharged from custody
159 within the preceding twenty years after having been found not guilty of
160 a crime by reason of mental disease or defect pursuant to section 53a-13;
161 (5) (A) has been confined in a hospital for persons with psychiatric
162 disabilities, as defined in section 17a-495, within the preceding sixty
163 months by order of a probate court, or (B) has been voluntarily admitted
164 on or after October 1, 2013, or has been committed under an emergency
165 certificate pursuant to section 17a-502 on or after October 1, 2023, to a

166 hospital for persons with psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section
167 17a-495, within the preceding six months for care and treatment of a
168 psychiatric disability and not solely for being an alcohol-dependent
169 person or a drug-dependent person, as those terms are defined in
170 section 17a-680; (6) is subject to a restraining or protective order issued
171 by a court in a case involving the use, attempted use or threatened use
172 of physical force against another person, including an ex parte order
173 issued pursuant to section 46b-15 or 46b-16a; (7) is subject to a firearms
174 seizure order issued prior to June 1, 2022, pursuant to section 29-38c
175 after notice and hearing, or a risk protection order or risk protection
176 investigation order issued on or after June 1, 2022, pursuant to section
177 29-38c; (8) is prohibited from shipping, transporting, possessing or
178 receiving a firearm pursuant to 18 USC 922(g)(2), (g)(4) or (g)(9); (9) is
179 an alien illegally or unlawfully in the United States; or (10) is less than
180 twenty-one years of age. Nothing in this section shall require any person
181 who holds a valid permit to carry a pistol or revolver on July 1, 2024, to
182 participate in any additional training in the safety and use of pistols and
183 revolvers. No person may apply for a temporary state permit to carry a
184 pistol or revolver more than once within any twelve-month period, and
185 no temporary state permit to carry a pistol or revolver shall be issued to
186 any person who has applied for such permit more than once within the
187 preceding twelve months. Any person who applies for a temporary state
188 permit to carry a pistol or revolver shall indicate in writing on the
189 application, under penalty of false statement in such manner as the
190 issuing authority prescribes, that such person has not applied for a
191 temporary state permit to carry a pistol or revolver within the past
192 twelve months. Upon issuance of a temporary state permit to carry a
193 pistol or revolver to the applicant, the local authority, or the chief of
194 police of a law enforcement unit of any federally recognized Native
195 American tribe within the borders of the state as referenced in this
196 subsection, shall forward the original application to the commissioner.
197 Not later than sixty days after receiving a temporary state permit, an
198 applicant shall appear at a location designated by the commissioner to
199 receive the state permit. The commissioner may then issue, to any
200 holder of any temporary state permit, a state permit to carry a pistol or

201 revolver within the state. Upon issuance of the state permit, the
202 commissioner shall make available to the permit holder a copy of the
203 law regarding the permit holder's responsibility to report the loss or
204 theft of a firearm and the penalties associated with the failure to comply
205 with such law. Upon issuance of the state permit, the commissioner shall
206 forward a record of such permit to the local authority, or the chief of
207 police of a law enforcement unit of any federally recognized Native
208 American tribe within the borders of the state as referenced in this
209 subsection, issuing the temporary state permit. The commissioner shall
210 retain records of all applications, whether approved or denied. The copy
211 of the state permit delivered to the permittee shall be laminated and
212 shall contain a full-face photograph of such permittee. A person holding
213 a state permit issued pursuant to this subsection shall notify the issuing
214 authority within two business days of any change of such person's
215 address. The notification shall include the old address and the new
216 address of such person.

217 Sec. 5. Section 29-36f of the general statutes is repealed and the
218 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

219 (a) Any person who is twenty-one years of age or older may apply to
220 the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection for an
221 eligibility certificate for a pistol or revolver.

222 (b) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection
223 shall issue an eligibility certificate unless said commissioner finds that
224 the applicant: (1) (A) For any application filed prior to July 1, 2024, has
225 failed to successfully complete a course approved by the Commissioner
226 of Emergency Services and Public Protection in the safety and use of
227 pistols and revolvers including, but not limited to, a safety or training
228 course in the use of pistols and revolvers available to the public offered
229 by a law enforcement agency, a private or public educational institution
230 or a firearms training school, utilizing instructors certified by the
231 National Rifle Association or the Department of Energy and
232 Environmental Protection and a safety or training course in the use of
233 pistols or revolvers conducted by an instructor certified by the state or

234 the National Rifle Association, or (B) for any application filed on or after
235 July 1, 2024, has failed to successfully complete, not earlier than two
236 years prior to the submission of such application, a course approved by
237 the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in the
238 safety and use of firearms, which courses may include those certified by
239 the National Rifle Association or other organizations, conducted by an
240 instructor certified by the National Rifle Association or by the state,
241 provided any such course includes instruction in state law requirements
242 pertaining to safe storage in the home and in vehicles, lawful use of
243 firearms and lawful carrying of firearms in public; (2) has been
244 convicted of (A) a felony, or (B) (i) a misdemeanor violation of section
245 21a-279 on or after October 1, 2015, [(C)] (ii) a misdemeanor violation of
246 section 53a-58, 53a-61, 53a-61a, 53a-62, 53a-63, 53a-96, 53a-175, 53a-176,
247 53a-178 or 53a-181d during the preceding [twenty] eight years, [or (D)]
248 (iii) a misdemeanor violation of any law of this state that has been
249 designated as a family violence crime pursuant to section 46b-38h, or
250 (iv) a misdemeanor violation in another state, a federal, tribal or military
251 court or any foreign jurisdiction during the preceding eight years that a
252 reasonable reviewer would believe to constitute (I) any crime of violence
253 against another person causing physical injury, (II) any crime that with
254 extreme indifference to human life creates a risk of serious physical
255 injury or with criminal negligence causes the death of another person
256 other than by a motor vehicle, (III) any crime that by physical threat or
257 course of conduct causes another person to reasonably fear for such
258 person's safety, (IV) any crime involving engaging in or inciting a riot,
259 or (V) possession of a controlled substance or hallucinogenic substance,
260 each as defined in section 21a-240, other than less than four ounces of
261 cannabis, less than one-half ounce of psilocybin or nicotine; (3) has been
262 convicted as delinquent for the commission of a serious juvenile offense,
263 as defined in section 46b-120; (4) has been discharged from custody
264 within the preceding twenty years after having been found not guilty of
265 a crime by reason of mental disease or defect pursuant to section 53a-13;
266 (5) (A) has been confined in a hospital for persons with psychiatric
267 disabilities, as defined in section 17a-495, within the preceding sixty
268 months by order of a probate court; or (B) has been voluntarily admitted

269 on or after October 1, 2013, or has been committed under an emergency
270 certificate pursuant to section 17a-502 on or after October 1, 2023, to a
271 hospital for persons with psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section
272 17a-495, within the preceding six months for care and treatment of a
273 psychiatric disability and not solely for being an alcohol-dependent
274 person or a drug-dependent person as those terms are defined in section
275 17a-680; (6) is subject to a restraining or protective order issued by a
276 court in a case involving the use, attempted use or threatened use of
277 physical force against another person, including an ex parte order
278 issued pursuant to section 46b-15 or section 46b-16a; (7) is subject to a
279 firearms seizure order issued prior to June 1, 2022, pursuant to section
280 29-38c after notice and hearing, or a risk protection order or risk
281 protection investigation order issued on or after June 1, 2022, pursuant
282 to section 29-38c; (8) is prohibited from shipping, transporting,
283 possessing or receiving a firearm pursuant to 18 USC 922(g)(2), (g)(4) or
284 (g)(9); or (9) is an alien illegally or unlawfully in the United States.

285 Sec. 6. Section 29-37p of the general statutes is repealed and the
286 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

287 (a) Any person who is eighteen years of age or older may apply to the
288 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection for a long
289 gun eligibility certificate.

290 (b) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection
291 shall issue a long gun eligibility certificate unless said commissioner
292 finds that the applicant: (1) (A) For any application filed prior to July 1,
293 2024, has failed to successfully complete a course approved by the
294 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection in the
295 safety and use of firearms including, but not limited to, a safety or
296 training course in the use of firearms available to the public offered by
297 a law enforcement agency, a private or public educational institution or
298 a firearms training school, utilizing instructors certified by the National
299 Rifle Association or the Department of Energy and Environmental
300 Protection and a safety or training course in the use of firearms
301 conducted by an instructor certified by the state or the National Rifle

302 Association, or (B) for any application filed on or after July 1, 2024, has
303 failed to successfully complete, not earlier than two years prior to the
304 submission of such application, a course approved by the Commissioner
305 of Emergency Services and Public Protection in the safety and use of
306 firearms, which courses may include those certified by the National
307 Rifle Association or other organizations, conducted by an instructor
308 certified by the National Rifle Association or by the state, provided any
309 such course includes instruction in state law requirements pertaining to
310 safe storage in the home and in vehicles, lawful use of firearms and
311 lawful carrying of firearms in public; (2) has been convicted of (A) a
312 felony, or (B) (i) a misdemeanor violation of section 21a-279 on or after
313 October 1, 2015, [(C)] (ii) a misdemeanor violation of section 53a-58, 53a-
314 61, 53a-61a, 53a-62, 53a-63, 53a-96, 53a-175, 53a-176, 53a-178 or 53a-181d
315 during the preceding [twenty] eight years, [or (D)] (iii) a misdemeanor
316 violation of any law of this state that has been designated as a family
317 violence crime pursuant to section 46b-38h, or (iv) a misdemeanor
318 violation in another state, a federal, tribal or military court or any
319 foreign jurisdiction during the preceding eight years that a reasonable
320 reviewer would believe to constitute (I) any crime of violence against
321 another person causing physical injury, (II) any crime that with extreme
322 indifference to human life creates a risk of serious physical injury or
323 with criminal negligence causes the death of another person other than
324 by a motor vehicle, (III) any crime that by physical threat or course of
325 conduct causes another person to reasonably fear for such person's
326 safety, (IV) any crime involving engaging in or inciting a riot, or (V)
327 possession of a controlled substance or hallucinogenic substance, each
328 as defined in section 21a-240, other than less than four ounces of
329 cannabis, less than one-half ounce of psilocybin or nicotine; (3) has been
330 convicted as delinquent for the commission of a serious juvenile offense,
331 as defined in section 46b-120; (4) has been discharged from custody
332 within the preceding twenty years after having been found not guilty of
333 a crime by reason of mental disease or defect pursuant to section 53a-13;
334 (5) has been confined in a hospital for persons with psychiatric
335 disabilities, as defined in section 17a-495, within the preceding sixty
336 months by order of a probate court; (6) has been voluntarily admitted

337 or, on or after October 1, 2023, has been committed under an emergency
338 certificate pursuant to section 17a-502 to a hospital for persons with
339 psychiatric disabilities, as defined in section 17a-495, within the
340 preceding six months for care and treatment of a psychiatric disability
341 and not solely for being an alcohol-dependent person or a drug-
342 dependent person as those terms are defined in section 17a-680; (7) is
343 subject to a restraining or protective order issued by a court in a case
344 involving the use, attempted use or threatened use of physical force
345 against another person, including an ex parte order issued pursuant to
346 section 46b-15 or 46b-16a; (8) is subject to a firearms seizure order issued
347 prior to June 1, 2022, pursuant to section 29-38c after notice and hearing,
348 or a risk protection order or risk protection investigation order issued
349 on or after June 1, 2022, pursuant to section 29-38c; (9) is prohibited from
350 shipping, transporting, possessing or receiving a firearm pursuant to 18
351 USC 922(g)(2), (g)(4) or (g)(9); or (10) is an alien illegally or unlawfully
352 in the United States.

353 Sec. 7. Section 53-203 of the general statutes is repealed and the
354 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

355 (a) Any person who intentionally, negligently or carelessly
356 discharges any firearm in such a manner as to be likely to cause bodily
357 injury or death to persons or domestic animals, or the wanton
358 destruction of property, shall be guilty of a class C misdemeanor.

359 (b) The provisions of subsection (a) of this section shall not be
360 construed to prohibit the intentional discharge of a firearm for the
361 purpose of lawful self-defense or lawful defense of another person.

362 Sec. 8. Section 26-66 of the general statutes is repealed and the
363 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

364 The commissioner may adopt regulations in accordance with the
365 provisions of chapter 54 governing the taking of wildlife, provided any
366 regulations concerning the taking of migratory game birds shall be
367 consistent with section 26-91. The regulations may: (1) Establish the
368 open and closed seasons, which may be modified by decreasing or

369 increasing the number of days for any specific species, (2) establish
370 hours, days or periods during the open season when hunting shall not
371 be permitted for specific species, (3) establish legal hours, (4) prescribe
372 the legal methods, including type, kind, gauge and caliber of weapons
373 and ammunition, including long bow, (5) prescribe the sex of wildlife
374 that may be taken on a state-wide or local area basis, (6) establish the
375 daily bag limit and the season bag limit, (7) establish the maximum
376 number of persons that may hunt on designated areas during any
377 twenty-four-hour period, (8) require that a permit be obtained from the
378 landowner or such landowner's agent, or the commissioner or such
379 commissioner's agent, to enter upon designated premises or areas for
380 the purpose of hunting, and further require that such permit be returned
381 within a specified time to the issuing authority with an accurate report
382 of all wildlife taken under such permit, the time spent on the premises
383 or area and any other data required by the commissioner for
384 management purposes, (9) establish areas that shall be restricted for
385 designated periods for hunting only with long bow or other specified
386 weapons, (10) establish areas that shall be restricted for designated
387 periods for hunting exclusively by persons with physical disabilities,
388 (11) establish requirements and procedures for tagging and reporting
389 birds or animals taken by hunting or trapping, [;] and (12) provided no
390 regulation or order prohibits or may be construed to prohibit the
391 intentional discharge of a firearm for the purpose of lawful self-defense
392 or lawful defense of another person, in the interest of public safety and
393 for the purpose of preventing unreasonable conduct and abuses by
394 hunters, and to provide reasonable control of the actions and behavior
395 of such persons, said commissioner may issue regulations and orders to
396 [(12)] (A) prohibit the carrying of loaded firearms and hunting within
397 specified distances of buildings, [(13)] (B) prohibit the discharge of
398 firearms and other hunting devices within specified distances of
399 buildings and, when within specified distances, the discharge of such
400 firearms and devices toward persons, buildings and livestock, [(14)] (C)
401 prohibit hunting while on any road adjacent to any state park, state
402 forest, premises used for the breeding, rearing or holding in captivity of
403 wildlife or premises used for zoological purposes, [(15)] (D) establish

404 minimum distances between fixed positions, floating and drift blinds
 405 for waterfowl hunting, [(16)] (E) prohibit crossing over lawns and lands
 406 under cultivation, [(17)] (F) prohibit damage to property, livestock and
 407 agricultural crops, [(18)] (G) prohibit, during specified periods on
 408 designated areas, the training, exercising and running of dogs under
 409 control or uncontrolled, [(19)] (H) prohibit the operation and parking of
 410 vehicles on designated portions of public and private roads, parking
 411 areas, lanes, passageways, rights-of-way, fields and lots, [(20)] (I)
 412 prohibit the discarding of bottles, glass, cans, paper, junk, litter and
 413 trash, [(21)] (J) control the launching, anchoring, mooring, storage and
 414 abandonment of boats, trailers and related equipment on properties
 415 under the control of the commissioner, [(22)] (K) specify [(A)] (i) the
 416 persons who shall wear fluorescent orange clothing, [(B)] (ii) the time
 417 periods during which such clothing shall be worn, and [(C)] (iii) the
 418 types and amounts of such clothing which shall be worn, on and after
 419 January 1, 1989, when hunting.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2025, and applicable to any civil action filed on or after said date</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2025, and applicable to any civil action filed on or after said date</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2025, and applicable to any civil action filed on or after said date</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	29-28(b)
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	29-36f
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	29-37p
Sec. 7	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	53-203
Sec. 8	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	26-66

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below
Judicial Dept. (Probation)	GF - Potential Savings	Minimal	Minimal
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Loss	Minimal	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
All Municipalities	Potential Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below

Explanation

The bill results in 1) a potential revenue to gain to the state and to municipalities and 2) a potential savings to the Judicial Department for probation and a potential revenue loss from fines. Details are provided below by section.

Sections 1-3 require firearm industry members to implement "reasonable controls" to prevent certain illegal activities and ensure compliance with firearm-related laws and allows the individuals harmed by violations, municipalities, and Office of the Attorney General to initiate civil lawsuits for violations, resulting in a potential revenue gain to the state and to municipalities to the extent violations occur.

The court system disposes of over 250,000 cases annually and the number of cases is not anticipated to be great enough to need additional resources.

Sections 4-6, which add certain misdemeanor convictions that occur in other jurisdictions to the list of disqualifying offenses that prohibit a person from being issued certain firearms credentials, does not result in a fiscal impact to the state or municipalities because the officials reviewing the applications for such credentials have the expertise to apply the bill's provisions.

Sections 7 and 8, which exclude the intentional discharge of a firearm in self-defense or the defense of others from a class C misdemeanor for unlawfully discharging a firearm, results in a potential savings to the Judicial Department for probation and a potential revenue loss to the General Fund from fines.¹ On average, the marginal cost for supervision in the community is less than \$600² each year for adults and \$450 each year for juveniles.

House "A" strikes the language and impact of the underlying bill resulting in the fiscal impact described above.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation and the actual number of violations.

¹ In FY 24, 331 charges were recorded and \$1,850 in associated revenue was collected under CGS § 53-203.

² Probation marginal cost is based on services provided by private providers and only includes costs that increase with each additional participant.

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 7042 (as amended by House “A”)******AN ACT CONCERNING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FIREARM INDUSTRY RESPONSIBILITY ACT.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires firearm industry members to establish, implement, and enforce certain measures (“reasonable controls”) designed to (1) prevent the in-state sales or distribution of firearms and specified related products to certain people (e.g., straw purchasers or people banned by law from possessing firearms) or in a way that is reasonably foreseeable to promote conversion into an illegal product and (2) ensure compliance with certain existing firearm-related laws. It also places certain restrictions on firearm industry members, such as prohibiting them from purposely and knowingly advertising industry products in a way that promotes unlawful sales or use or an unreasonable public safety risk.

The bill allows a person who has suffered harm due to a violation, a municipality, or the state to sue a firearm industry member under these provisions. The bill specifies the available court relief for prevailing plaintiffs in these lawsuits, such as compensatory damages, punitive damages, or costs and attorney’s fees.

Separately, the bill shortens the look-back period, from 20 to eight years, for certain in-state misdemeanor convictions to disqualify someone from being issued a handgun permit, handgun eligibility certificate, or long gun eligibility certificate.

The bill also adds certain misdemeanor convictions that occur in other jurisdictions to the list of offenses that disqualify a person from being issued these firearm credentials. These other jurisdictions are (1) other states; (2) a federal, tribal, or military court; or (3) any foreign

jurisdiction. More specifically, the bill prohibits issuing these firearm credentials to those who had a misdemeanor conviction in these jurisdictions in the preceding eight years that a reasonable reviewer would believe constituted:

1. violence against another person causing physical injury;
2. extreme indifference to human life that created a risk of serious physical injury, or criminal negligence that caused the death of another person (other than by a motor vehicle);
3. physical threats or conduct made toward a specific person that would cause them to reasonably fear for their safety;
4. engaging in or inciting a riot; and
5. possession of controlled substances or hallucinogenic substances, excluding up to four ounces of cannabis, up to one-half ounce of psilocybin, or nicotine.

Additionally, the bill specifies that unlawfully discharging a firearm does not include intentionally discharging a firearm for lawful self-defense or defending another person.

Existing law allows the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) commissioner to adopt regulations and issue orders in the interest of public safety to prevent unreasonable conduct and abuses by hunters and to provide reasonable control for their actions and behaviors. The bill specifically prohibits the regulations or orders from prohibiting or being construed to prohibit intentionally discharging a firearm for lawful self-defense or defending another person.

*House Amendment "A" makes changes to the underlying provisions on firearm industry members, such as specifying that (1) reasonable controls apply to in-state sales or distribution; (2) the controls must prevent sales designed in a way that is reasonably foreseeable, not just foreseeable, to promote conversion into an illegal

product; and (3) the ban on certain advertising, marketing, or promotions only applies if the industry member purposely and knowingly promoted certain unlawful or unsafe practices. The amendment also adds the provisions on (1) misdemeanor convictions as disqualifiers for specified firearm credentials (§§ 4-6) and (2) self-defense and defense of others (§§ 7 & 8).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025, and the provisions on firearm industry members apply to civil actions filed on or after that date.

§§ 1-3 — REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS FOR FIREARM INDUSTRY MEMBERS

The bill establishes the following requirements and restrictions for firearm industry members.

Under the bill, a “firearm industry member” is a person, entity, or association (e.g., corporation or trade association) engaged in the manufacture, distribution, importation, marketing, or sale (wholesale or retail) of “firearm industry products.” These products are firearms, ammunition or firearm magazines, unfinished frames or lower receivers (generally used to make “ghost guns”), or rates of firearm enhancement (e.g., “bump stocks”) that are or were (1) sold, made, or distributed in the state or (2) possessed in the state and it was known by the firearm industry member that the product would be sold, made, distributed, or possessed in the state.

Reasonable Controls

The bill requires firearm industry members to establish, implement, and enforce “reasonable controls.” These are procedures, acts, and practices that are designed, implemented, and enforced (collectively, “designed” for this analysis) to do the following.

Prevention of Certain Sales. The controls must be designed to prevent the sale or distribution in the state of firearm industry products to:

1. straw purchasers (generally, people who engage in conduct, or attempt to do so, that violates the state prohibition on false statements or information related to firearm purchases, sales, or transfers, or the federal prohibition on buying firearms for or on behalf of someone who is prohibited from owning them or who meets certain other criteria);
2. firearm traffickers (people who engage, conspire, or attempt to engage in conduct that is illegal firearm trafficking under state or federal law);
3. people prohibited from possessing firearms under state or federal law; or
4. people whom the industry member reasonably believes are at substantial risk of (a) using a firearm industry product to harm themselves or others or (b) possessing or using these products unlawfully.

The controls also must be designed to prevent the sale or distribution in Connecticut of firearm industry products that are designed in a way that is reasonably foreseeable to promote the product's conversion from a legal into an illegal product.

Compliance With Bill and Other Laws. The controls must be designed to ensure compliance with the laws on the following firearm-related credentials: (1) local permits for retail firearm sales, (2) handgun permits, (3) handgun or long gun eligibility certificates, and (4) ammunition certificates.

The controls must also be designed to ensure compliance with the bill's requirements and restrictions.

Restrictions

The bill prohibits firearm industry members from:

1. providing a firearm industry product to another industry

member when they have reasonable cause to believe that the other member is violating the bill;

2. purposely and knowingly directing their advertising, marketing, or promotions of firearm industry products in Connecticut in a way that they know would promote unlawful sales, unlawful use, or unreasonable risk to public safety; or
3. knowingly violating state or federal laws on the manufacture, distribution, importation, marketing, or sale (wholesale or retail) of industry products.

Civil Lawsuits

Under the bill, if firearm industry members act, or fail to act, in violation of these provisions, they are subject to liability in a lawsuit. The case may be brought by any of the following:

1. someone who was harmed in the state due to a firearm industry member's violation of the bill's requirements or restrictions,
2. a municipality's corporation counsel or other chief legal officer (in the municipality's name), or
3. the attorney general (in the state's name).

The plaintiff must file the case in the judicial district where the act, omission, or harm allegedly happened. If someone other than the attorney general brings the case, he or she must notify the attorney general within 30 days after filing it.

Under the bill, if a court determines that a firearm industry member violated the bill's requirements or restrictions, it may award any or all of the following:

1. injunctive relief that is sufficient to prevent the industry member or other defendants from further violations,
2. compensatory damages,

3. punitive damages,
4. restitution,
5. costs and reasonable attorney's fees, and
6. any other appropriate relief needed to enforce the law on firearm-related credentialing (and other provisions within chapter 529) and remedy the harm.

§§ 4-6 — IN-STATE MISDEMEANORS AS DISQUALIFIERS

Under existing law, if individuals have convictions for certain in-state misdemeanors, they are prohibited from obtaining a handgun permit, handgun eligibility certificate, or long gun eligibility certificate. The bill limits the ineligibility to convictions during the prior eight years, rather than the prior 20 years as under current law. These misdemeanors are as follows:

1. criminally negligent homicide (excluding deaths caused by motor vehicles) (CGS § 53a-58);
2. third-degree assault (CGS § 53a-61);
3. third-degree assault of an elderly, blind, disabled, or pregnant person or person with intellectual disability (CGS § 53a-61a);
4. second-degree threatening (CGS § 53a-62) (in some cases, this crime is a felony, also barring eligibility for these credentials);
5. first-degree reckless endangerment (CGS § 53a-63);
6. second-degree unlawful restraint (CGS § 53a-96);
7. first-degree riot (CGS § 53a-175);
8. second-degree riot (CGS § 53a-176);
9. inciting to riot (CGS § 53a-178); and

10. second-degree stalking (CGS § 53a-181d).

Under existing law, convictions for the following misdemeanors are also disqualifying: (1) illegal drug possession (CGS § 21a-279) on or after October 1, 2015, or (2) any law that has been designated a family violence crime (no matter when the conviction occurred).

BACKGROUND

Related Federal Law and State Supreme Court Case

Federal law (the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act or PLCAA) generally protects licensed gun manufacturers, sellers, or trade associations from civil liability in federal or state court resulting from the criminal or unlawful misuse of firearms or ammunition by third parties. The law includes six exceptions, including cases in which a manufacturer or seller knowingly violated a state or federal statute applicable to the sale or marketing of the product, and the violation was a proximate cause of the harm for which relief is sought (15 U.S.C. §§ 7901-7903). This exception is sometimes referred to as the “predicate exception.”

In a case involving the alleged unlawful marketing of a firearm, the Connecticut Supreme Court held that the plaintiffs (estate administrators for certain victims of the Sandy Hook shooting) could proceed with their Connecticut Unfair Trade Practices Act (CUTPA) claim under the PLCAA’s predicate exception (*Soto v. Bushmaster Firearms Int’l, LLC*, 331 Conn. 53 (2019)). The defendants later sought review in the U.S. Supreme Court, but the Court declined to hear the appeal. (The case eventually resulted in a settlement.)

Unlawfully Discharging a Firearm

By law, a person unlawfully discharges a firearm when he or she intentionally, negligently, or carelessly discharges a firearm in a way likely to cause bodily injury or death to individuals or domestic animals, or the wanton destruction of property. Violators are guilty of a class C misdemeanor, punishable by up to three months imprisonment, up to a \$500 fine, or both.

Justified Use of Force to Defend Self or Others

By law, a person is generally justified in using reasonable physical force to defend himself, herself, or a third person from what he or she reasonably believes to be the use or imminent use of force, and may use the degree of force reasonably believed necessary. Generally, a person can instead use deadly force if he or she reasonably believes that someone is using or about to use deadly physical force or inflict great bodily harm on them or someone else.

But despite these provisions, a person cannot use deadly force if he or she can avoid doing so with complete safety by (1) retreating, with certain exceptions (such as not having to do so at the person's home); (2) surrendering possession to property the other person claims to own; or (3) obeying a demand to not take an action he or she is not otherwise required to take.

The law provides certain other exceptions to the justified use of physical force, such as if the person provoked the attack with intent to cause injury or death to someone else (CGS § 53a-19).

Hunting Regulations

By law, the DEEP commissioner may adopt regulations and issue orders on various hunting-related prohibitions and restrictions. Among other things, these regulations and orders may prohibit (1) carrying loaded firearms and hunting within specified distances of buildings; (2) discharging firearms and other hunting devices within specified distances of buildings and, when within this distance, discharging them towards individuals, buildings, and livestock; and (3) damaging property, livestock, and agricultural crops.

Related Bills

sHB 7137 (File 782), favorably reported by the Judiciary Committee, adds certain misdemeanor convictions that occur in other jurisdictions to the list of offenses that disqualify a person from being issued long gun and handgun eligibility certificates and handgun permits.

sHB 7194 (File 752), favorably reported by the Judiciary Committee, has identical provisions as this bill (§§ 7 & 8) on self-defense or the defense of others.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 31 Nay 10 (04/07/2025)