
OLR Bill Analysis

HB 7052

AN ACT CONCERNING LARGE CAPACITY MAGAZINES AND THE SALE OF AMMUNITION.

SUMMARY

This bill increases, from 10 to 15 rounds, how much ammunition a firearm magazine may accept before it is considered a large capacity magazine (LCM). Existing law, with exceptions, prohibits anyone from keeping, offering, or exposing LCMs for sale; transferring LCMs; or buying, distributing, or bringing them into Connecticut.

The bill also allows for the transfer of LCMs between people or entities who are allowed to possess them under existing law.

Lastly, the bill exempts firing or shooting range patrons from certain ammunition purchase requirements and restrictions. Specifically, it allows patrons to purchase ammunition without being at least age 18 or having certain firearm or ammunition credentials.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025

§ 2 – LCMS

Under current law, an LCM is any firearm magazine, belt, drum, feed strip, or similar device that can hold, or can be readily restored or converted to accept, more than 10 rounds of ammunition. The bill increases the ammunition capacity threshold to 15 rounds. As under existing law, an LCM does not include:

1. a detachable firearm magazine that has been permanently altered to contain only 10 rounds (the bill does not correspondingly change this number),
2. a .22 caliber tube ammunition feeding device,
3. a tubular magazine contained in a lever-action firearm, and

4. a magazine that is permanently inoperable.

Transferring LCMs

Existing law, unchanged by the bill, allows certain people, including law enforcement, to possess, purchase, or import LCMs. It also allows the following to possess LCMs:

1. anyone who declared LCM possession with the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection within a specified time;
2. licensed gun dealers;
3. gunsmiths employed by a licensed gun dealer, who receive lawfully possessed LCMs for servicing or repair;
4. Connecticut LCM manufacturers allowed to possess, purchase, or import LCMs, to service or repair another person's lawfully possessed LCM; and
5. executors or administrators of an estate that includes legally declared LCMs, which are disposed of as authorized by the probate court, if the disposition is otherwise permitted.

The bill allows the transfer of LCMs within the state between these people who are allowed to lawfully possess LCMs.

LCM Penalties

Under existing law, a person who offers, or exposes LCMs for sale; transfers LCMs; or buys, distributes, or brings them into Connecticut is guilty of a class D felony, which is punishable by up to five years imprisonment, up to a \$5,000 fine, or both.

Additionally, anyone who illegally possesses an LCM is guilty of a (1) class D felony for violators who are ineligible to possess firearms and (2) class A misdemeanor for those who are eligible, which is punishable by up to 364 days imprisonment, up to a \$2,000 fine, or both.

AMMUNITION SALES

Existing law generally requires anyone buying ammunition or ammunition magazines to be at least age 18 and prohibits sales unless the buyer presents to the seller:

1. a handgun permit, gun dealer permit, or long gun or handgun eligibility certificate or
2. an ammunition certificate and a driver's license, passport, or other valid government-issued identification that contains his or her photograph and date of birth.

The bill exempts a firing or shooting range patron from these requirements if the ammunition is sold, obtained, and discharged at the range.

As under existing law, any violation is a class D felony.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 15 Nay 14 (03/18/2025)