



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 254**

February Session, 2026

House Bill No. 5459

*House of Representatives, March 30, 2026*

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through REP. BOYD of the 50th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

## ***AN ACT CONCERNING THE VOLUNTARY RELINQUISHMENT OF FIREARMS.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 53-202e of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

3 (a) Any individual may arrange in advance to relinquish an assault  
4 weapon to a police department or the Department of Emergency  
5 Services and Public Protection. The assault weapon shall be transported  
6 in accordance with the provisions of section 53-202f.

7 (b) Except as provided in subsection (a) of this section, any individual  
8 may, at any time, relinquish any firearm owned by such individual to a  
9 police department or to the Department of Emergency Services and  
10 Public Protection.

11 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 53-202c of the general statutes is  
12 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*

13 1, 2026):

14 (a) Except as provided in subsection (a) of section 53-202e, as  
15 amended by this act, any person who, within this state, possesses an  
16 assault weapon, except as provided in sections 53-202a to 53-202k,  
17 inclusive, and 53-202o, shall be guilty of a class D felony and shall be  
18 sentenced to a term of imprisonment of which one year may not be  
19 suspended or reduced by the court, except that a first-time violation of  
20 this subsection shall be a class A misdemeanor if (1) the person presents  
21 proof that such person lawfully possessed the assault weapon (A) prior  
22 to October 1, 1993, with respect to an assault weapon described in  
23 subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of section 53-202a, (B) on April 4,  
24 2013, under the provisions of sections 53-202a to 53-202k, inclusive, in  
25 effect on January 1, 2013, with respect to an assault weapon described in  
26 any provision of subparagraphs (B) to (F), inclusive, of subdivision (1)  
27 of section 53-202a, or (C) on June 5, 2023, under the provisions of  
28 sections 53-202a to 53-202k, inclusive, revision of 1958, revised to  
29 January 1, 2023, with respect to an assault weapon defined as a 2023  
30 assault weapon in section 53-202a, and (2) the person has otherwise  
31 possessed the assault weapon in compliance with subsection (f) of  
32 section 53-202d.

33 Sec. 3. Subsection (b) of section 53-202d of the general statutes is  
34 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
35 *1, 2026*):

36 (b) (1) No assault weapon, as defined in subparagraph (A) of  
37 subdivision (1) of section 53-202a, possessed pursuant to a certificate of  
38 possession issued under this section may be sold or transferred on or  
39 after January 1, 1994, to any person within this state other than to a  
40 licensed gun dealer, as defined in subsection (f) of section 53-202f, or as  
41 provided in subsection (a) of section 53-202e, as amended by this act, or  
42 by bequest or intestate succession, or, upon the death of a testator or  
43 settlor: (A) To a trust, or (B) from a trust to a beneficiary who is eligible  
44 to possess the assault weapon.

45 (2) No assault weapon, as defined in any provision of subparagraphs

46 (B) to (F), inclusive, of subdivision (1) of section 53-202a, possessed  
 47 pursuant to a certificate of possession issued under this section may be  
 48 sold or transferred on or after April 5, 2013, to any person within this  
 49 state other than to a licensed gun dealer, as defined in subsection (f) of  
 50 section 53-202f, or as provided in subsection (a) of section 53-202e, as  
 51 amended by this act, or by bequest or intestate succession, or, upon the  
 52 death of a testator or settlor: (A) To a trust, or (B) from a trust to a  
 53 beneficiary who is eligible to possess the assault weapon.

54 (3) No 2023 assault weapon possessed pursuant to a certificate of  
 55 possession issued under this section may be sold or transferred on or  
 56 after June 6, 2023, to any person within this state other than to a licensed  
 57 gun dealer, or as provided in subsection (a) of section 53-202e, as  
 58 amended by this act, or by bequest or intestate succession, or, upon the  
 59 death of a testator or settlor: (A) To a trust, or (B) from a trust to a  
 60 beneficiary who is eligible to possess the assault weapon.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2026	53-202e
Sec. 2	October 1, 2026	53-202c(a)
Sec. 3	October 1, 2026	53-202d(b)

**PS**            *Joint Favorable*

*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.*

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**OFA Fiscal Note****State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None**Explanation**

The bill, which modifies statutes related to the voluntary relinquishment of firearms, has no fiscal impact.

**The Out Years****State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None

**OLR Bill Analysis**

**HB 5459**

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE VOLUNTARY RELINQUISHMENT OF FIREARMS.***

**SUMMARY**

This bill explicitly allows anyone to relinquish any firearms they own, other than assault weapons, to a police department or the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection. Existing law similarly allows anyone to do the same for assault weapons, but they must follow specific transportation requirements and make advance arrangements.

The bill also makes conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 29    Nay 0    (03/17/2026)