



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Raised Bill No. 7042

LCO No. 5131



Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY

Introduced by:
(JUD)

***AN ACT CONCERNING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FIREARM
INDUSTRY RESPONSIBILITY ACT.***

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; (B) intended to be
11 sold or distributed in this state; or (C) possessed in this state and it was
12 reasonably foreseeable that such product would be possessed in this
13 state:

14 (i) Ammunition or a magazine as those terms are defined in section

15 29-38m of the general statutes;

16 (ii) A firearm as defined in section 53a-3 of the general statutes;

17 (iii) An unfinished frame or lower receiver, as defined in section 53-
18 206j of the general statutes;

19 (iv) A firearm component; or

20 (v) A firearm accessory.

21 (3) "Firearm trafficker" means an individual who engages in,
22 conspires to engage in, or attempts to engage in conduct that constitutes
23 firearms trafficking as described in section 53-202aa of the general
24 statutes or trafficking in firearms as described in 18 USC 933.

25 (4) "Reasonable controls" means procedures, acts and practices that
26 are designed, implemented and enforced to do all of the following:

27 (A) Prevent the sale or distribution of a firearm industry product to a
28 straw purchaser, a firearm trafficker, a person prohibited from
29 possessing a firearm under state or federal law, or a person about whom
30 there is reasonable cause to believe such person is at substantial risk of
31 using a firearm industry product to harm themselves or another or of
32 possessing or using a firearm industry product unlawfully.

33 (B) Ensure that a firearm industry member complies with section 29-
34 28b of the general statutes.

35 (C) Prevent the sale or distribution of a firearm industry product
36 designed, sold, advertised, marketed or promoted in a manner that
37 foreseeably promotes conversion of a legal firearm industry product
38 into an illegal firearm industry product.

39 (D) Ensure that the firearm industry member complies with the
40 provisions of section 2 of this act and all other applicable provisions of
41 state and federal law, and does not otherwise advertise, market or

42 promote the unlawful manufacture, sale, possession, marketing or use
43 of a firearm industry product.

44 (5) "Straw purchaser" means an individual who engages in or
45 attempts to engage in conduct that violates subsection (a) of section 29-
46 34 of the general statutes, section 29-37e of the general statutes or 18 USC
47 932.

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

51 (b) No firearm industry member shall provide a firearm industry
52 product to another firearm industry member when there is reasonable
53 cause to believe that such other firearm industry member is engaged in
54 conduct that is in violation of this section.

55 (c) No firearm industry member shall advertise, market or promote
56 firearm industry products in this state in a manner that promotes
57 unlawful sales, unlawful use or use that promotes risk to public safety.

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

63 (b) A civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction to enforce this
64 section or remedy harm caused by a violation of section 2 of this act may
65 be brought by:

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

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

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

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

75 (d) Where more than one plaintiff brings an action arising from the
76 same conduct, transaction or occurrence, the court may, upon the
77 motion of any party or upon its own motion order that the actions be
78 consolidated and any recovery shall be allocated among the plaintiffs in
79 proportion to their demonstrated damages.

80 (e) In an action alleging that a firearm industry member failed to
81 establish, implement and enforce reasonable controls in violation of
82 section 2 of this act, there shall be a rebuttable presumption that the
83 firearm industry member failed to implement reasonable controls if:

84 (1) The firearm industry member's act or omission created or
85 increased a reasonably foreseeable risk of the harm alleged occurring;
86 and

87 (2) The firearm industry member could have established,
88 implemented and enforced reasonable controls to prevent or lower the
89 risk of the harm alleged occurring but failed to do so.

90 (f) If a court determines that a firearm industry member has violated
91 any provision of section 2 of this act, the court may award any or all of
92 the following:

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

95 (2) Compensatory damages.

96 (3) Punitive damages.

97 (4) Restitution.

98 (5) Any other appropriate relief necessary to enforce the provisions
99 of chapter 529 of the general statutes and remedy the harm caused by
100 the conduct.

101 (g) In addition to the relief permitted under subsection (f) of this
102 section, if a court determines that a firearm industry member has
103 violated any provision of section 2 of this act:

104 (1) The court shall award costs and attorney's fees to a prevailing
105 plaintiff;

106 (2) A prevailing plaintiff may recover a civil penalty of not more than
107 ten thousand dollars for each violation; and

108 (3) The court may suspend or revoke any permits issued to the
109 firearm industry member under section 29-28 of the general statutes.

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

Statement of Purpose:

To permit the filing of a civil action against a firearm industry member who fails to exercise reasonable control over firearm industry products.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]