

This Document can be made available
in alternative formats upon request

State of Minnesota HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. **4699**

03/25/2026

Authored by Stier and Witte

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Public Safety Finance and Policy

- 1.1 A bill for an act
- 1.2 relating to public safety; increasing penalties for unlawful possession of firearms;
- 1.3 amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections 609.165, subdivision 1b; 624.713,
- 1.4 subdivision 2; 624.7141, subdivisions 1, 2.
- 1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:
- 1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 609.165, subdivision 1b, is amended to read:
- 1.7 Subd. 1b. **Violation and penalty.** (a) Any person who has been convicted of a crime of
- 1.8 violence, as defined in section 624.712, subdivision 5, and who ships, transports, possesses,
- 1.9 or receives a firearm or ammunition, commits a felony and may be sentenced to imprisonment
- 1.10 for not more than ~~15~~ 20 years or to payment of a fine of not more than \$30,000, or both.
- 1.11 (b) A conviction and sentencing under this section shall be construed to bar a conviction
- 1.12 and sentencing for a violation of section 624.713, subdivision 2.
- 1.13 (c) The criminal penalty in paragraph (a) does not apply to any person who has received
- 1.14 a relief of disability under United States Code, title 18, section 925, or whose ability to
- 1.15 possess firearms and ammunition has been restored under subdivision 1d.
- 1.16 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2026, and applies to offenses
- 1.17 committed on or after that date.
- 1.18 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 624.713, subdivision 2, is amended to read:
- 1.19 Subd. 2. **Penalties.** (a) A person named in subdivision 1, clause (1), who possesses
- 1.20 ammunition or a pistol or semiautomatic military-style assault weapon in violation of that
- 1.21 clause is guilty of a felony and may be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than five
- 1.22 years or to payment of a fine of not more than \$10,000, or both.

(b) A person named in subdivision 1, clause (2), who possesses any type of firearm or ammunition is guilty of a felony and may be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than 15 years or to payment of a fine of not more than \$30,000, or both. This paragraph does not apply to any person who has received a relief of disability under United States Code, title 18, section 925, or whose ability to possess firearms and ammunition has been restored under section 609.165, subdivision 1d.

(c) A person named in any other clause of subdivision 1 who possesses any type of firearm or ammunition is guilty of a ~~gross misdemeanor~~ felony and may be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than two years or to payment of a fine of not more than \$5,000, or both.

(d) The statutory maximum sentence for a violation of paragraphs (a) to (c) is 25 percent longer than for the underlying violation, if the violation is committed by a person in a school zone, park zone, or public housing zone as defined under section 152.01.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective August 1, 2026, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 624.7141, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Transfer prohibited.** (a) A person is guilty of a felony and may be sentenced to imprisonment for up to ~~two~~ four years and to payment of a fine of not more than \$10,000 if the person intentionally transfers a firearm to another and the person knows or reasonably should know that the transferee:

(1) has been denied a permit to carry under section 624.714 because the transferee is not eligible under section 624.713 to possess a pistol or semiautomatic military-style assault weapon or any other firearm;

(2) has been found ineligible to possess a pistol or semiautomatic military-style assault weapon by a chief of police or sheriff as a result of an application for a transferee permit or a transfer report; or

(3) is disqualified under section 624.713 from possessing a pistol or semiautomatic military-style assault weapon or any other firearm.

(b) Paragraph (a) does not apply to the transfer of a firearm other than a pistol or semiautomatic military-style assault weapon to a person under the age of 18 who is not disqualified from possessing any other firearm.

3.1 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2026, and applies to offenses
3.2 committed on or after that date.

3.3 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 624.7141, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

3.4 Subd. 2. **Aggravated offense offenses.** (a) A federally licensed firearms dealer who
3.5 violates this section may be sentenced to imprisonment for up to five years and to payment
3.6 of a fine of not more than \$20,000.

3.7 (b) A person who violates this section may be sentenced to imprisonment for up to five
3.8 eight years and to payment of a fine of not more than \$20,000 if the transferee possesses or
3.9 uses the weapon within one year after the transfer in furtherance of a felony crime of violence.

3.10 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2026, and applies to offenses
3.11 committed on or after that date.