

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 85

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR.

0767H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 1.320, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof nine new sections relating to the sole purpose of adding additional protections to the right to bear arms.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 1.320, RSMo, is repealed and nine new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 1.410, 1.420, 1.430, 1.440, 1.450, 1.460, 1.470, 1.480, and 1.485, to read as follows:

1.410. 1. Sections 1.410 to 1.485 shall be known and may be cited as the "Second Amendment Preservation Act".

2. The general assembly finds and declares that:

(1) The general assembly of the state of Missouri is firmly resolved to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against every aggression, whether foreign or domestic, and is duty-bound to oppose every infraction of those principles that constitute the basis of the union of the states because only a faithful observance of those principles can secure the union's existence and the public happiness;

(2) Acting through the Constitution of the United States, the people of the several states created the federal government to be their agent in the exercise of a few defined powers, while reserving for the state governments the power to legislate on matters concerning the lives, liberties, and properties of citizens in the ordinary course of affairs;

(3) The limitation of the federal government's power is affirmed under Amendment X of the Constitution of the United States, which defines the total scope of federal powers as being those which has been delegated by the people of the several states to the federal

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

16 government and all powers not delegated to the federal government in the Constitution of
17 the United States are reserved to the states respectively or the people themselves;

18 (4) If the federal government assumes powers that the people did not grant it in the
19 Constitution of the United States, its acts are unauthoritative, void, and of no force;

20 (5) The several states of the United States respect the proper role of the federal
21 government but reject the proposition that such respect requires unlimited submission.
22 If the federal government, created by a compact among the states, were the exclusive or
23 final judge of the extent of the powers granted to it by the states through the Constitution
24 of the United States, the federal government's discretion, and not the Constitution of the
25 United States, would necessarily become the measure of those powers. To the contrary, as
26 in all other cases of compacts among powers having no common judge, each party has an
27 equal right to judge for itself as to whether infractions of the compact have occurred, as
28 well as to determine the mode and measure of redress. Although the several states have
29 granted supremacy to laws and treaties made under the powers granted in the Constitution
30 of the United States, such supremacy does not extend to various federal statutes, executive
31 orders, administrative orders, court orders, rules, regulations, or other actions that collect
32 data or restrict or prohibit the manufacture, ownership, or use of firearms, firearm
33 accessories, or ammunition exclusively within the borders of Missouri; such statutes,
34 executive orders, administrative orders, court orders, rules, regulations, and other actions
35 exceed the powers granted to the federal government except to the extent they are
36 necessary and proper for governing and regulating the United States Armed Forces or for
37 organizing, arming, and disciplining militia forces actively employed in the service of the
38 United States Armed Forces;

39 (6) The people of the several states have given Congress the power "to regulate
40 commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states", but "regulating commerce"
41 does not include the power to limit citizens' right to keep and bear arms in defense of their
42 families, neighbors, persons, or property nor to dictate what sorts of arms and accessories
43 law-abiding Missourians may buy, sell, exchange, or otherwise possess within the borders
44 of this state;

45 (7) The people of the several states have also granted Congress the powers "to lay
46 and collect taxes, duties, imports, and excises, to pay the debts, and provide for the
47 common defense and general welfare of the United States" and "to make all laws which
48 shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the powers vested by the
49 Constitution of the United States in the government of the United States, or in any
50 department or office thereof". These constitutional provisions merely identify the means
51 by which the federal government may execute its limited powers and shall not be construed

52 to grant unlimited power because to do so would be to destroy the carefully constructed
53 equilibrium between the federal and state governments. Consequently, the general
54 assembly rejects any claim that the taxing and spending powers of Congress may be used
55 to diminish in any way the right of the people to keep and bear arms;

56 (8) The people of Missouri have vested the general assembly with the authority to
57 regulate the manufacture, possession, exchange, and use of firearms within the borders of
58 this state, subject only to the limits imposed by Amendment II of the Constitution of the
59 United States and the Constitution of Missouri; and

60 (9) The general assembly of the state of Missouri strongly promotes responsible gun
61 ownership, including parental supervision of minors in the proper use, storage, and
62 ownership of all firearms; the prompt reporting of stolen firearms; and the proper
63 enforcement of all state gun laws. The general assembly of the state of Missouri hereby
64 condemns any unlawful transfer of firearms and the use of any firearm in any criminal or
65 unlawful activity.

1.420. The following federal acts, laws, executive orders, administrative orders,
2 court orders, rules, and regulations shall be considered infringements on the people's right
3 to keep and bear arms, as guaranteed by Amendment II of the Constitution of the United
4 States and Article I, Section 23 of the Constitution of Missouri, within the borders of this
5 state including, but not limited to:

6 (1) Any tax, levy, fee, or stamp imposed on firearms, firearm accessories, or
7 ammunition not common to all other goods and services and that might reasonably be
8 expected to create a chilling effect on the purchase or ownership of those items by law-
9 abiding citizens;

10 (2) Any registering or tracking of firearms, firearm accessories, or ammunition that
11 might reasonably be expected to create a chilling effect on the purchase or ownership of
12 those items by law-abiding citizens;

13 (3) Any registration or tracking of the owners of firearms, firearm accessories, or
14 ammunition that might reasonably be expected to create a chilling effect on the purchase
15 or ownership of those items by law-abiding citizens;

16 (4) Any act forbidding the possession, ownership, use, or transfer of a firearm,
17 firearm accessory, or ammunition by law-abiding citizens; and

18 (5) Any act ordering the confiscation of firearms, firearm accessories, or
19 ammunition from law-abiding citizens.

1.430. All federal acts, laws, executive orders, administrative orders, court orders,
2 rules, and regulations, whether enacted before or after the provisions of sections 1.410 to
3 1.485, that infringe on the people's right to keep and bear arms as guaranteed by

4 **Amendment II of the Constitution of the United States and Article I, Section 23 of the**
5 **Constitution of Missouri shall be invalid in this state, shall not be recognized by this state,**
6 **shall be specifically rejected by this state, and shall be considered null, void, and of no**
7 **effect in this state.**

2 **1.440. It shall be the duty of the courts and law enforcement agencies of this state**
3 **to protect the rights of law-abiding citizens to keep and bear arms within the borders of**
4 **this state and to protect these rights from the infringements defined under section 1.420.**

2 **1.450. No entity or person, including any public officer or employee of this state or**
3 **any political subdivision of this state, shall have the authority to enforce or attempt to**
4 **enforce any federal acts, laws, executive orders, administrative orders, court orders, rules,**
5 **regulations, statutes, or ordinances infringing on the right to keep and bear arms as**
6 **described under section 1.410.**

2 **1.460. 1. Any entity or person who acts knowingly, as defined under section**
3 **562.016, to violate the provisions of section 1.450 or otherwise knowingly deprives a citizen**
4 **of Missouri of the rights or privileges ensured by Amendment II of the Constitution of the**
5 **United States or Article I, Section 23 of the Constitution of Missouri while acting under the**
6 **color of any state or federal law shall be liable to the injured party in an action at law, suit**
7 **in equity, or other proper proceeding for redress.**

8 **2. In such actions, the court may award the prevailing party, other than the state**
9 **of Missouri or any political subdivision of the state, reasonable attorney's fees and costs.**

10 **3. Sovereign, official, or qualified immunity shall not be an affirmative defense in**
11 **such actions.**

2 **1.470. 1. Any person acting as an official, agent, employee, or deputy of the**
3 **government of the United States, or otherwise acting under the color of federal law within**
4 **the borders of this state, who knowingly, as defined under section 562.016:**

5 **(1) Enforces or attempts to enforce any of the infringements identified in section**
6 **1.420; or**

7 **(2) Gives material aid and support to the efforts of another who enforces or**
8 **attempts to enforce any of the infringements identified in section 1.420**

9 **shall be permanently ineligible to serve as a law enforcement officer or to supervise law**
10 **enforcement officers for the state or any political subdivision of the state.**

11 **2. Neither the state nor any political subdivision of the state shall employ as a law**
12 **enforcement officer or supervisor of law enforcement officers any person who is ineligible**
13 **to serve in such capacity under this section.**

14 **3. Any person residing or conducting business in a jurisdiction who believes that**
15 **a law enforcement officer or supervisor of law enforcement officers of such jurisdiction has**
16 **taken action that would render that officer or supervisor ineligible under this section to**
17 **serve in such capacity shall have standing to pursue an action for declaratory judgment in**
18 **the circuit court of the county in which the action allegedly occurred, or in the circuit court**
19 **of Cole County, with respect to the employment eligibility of the law enforcement officer**
20 **or the supervisor of law enforcement officers under this section.**

21 **4. If a court determines that a law enforcement officer or supervisor of law**
22 **enforcement officers has taken any action that would render him or her ineligible to serve**
23 **in that capacity under this section:**

24 **(1) The law enforcement officer or supervisor of law enforcement officers shall**
25 **immediately be terminated from his or her position; and**

26 **(2) The jurisdiction that had employed the ineligible law enforcement officer or**
27 **supervisor of law enforcement officers shall be required to pay the court costs and**
28 **attorney's fees associated with the declaratory judgment action that resulted in the finding**
29 **of ineligibility.**

30 **5. Nothing in this section shall preclude a person's right of appeal or remediation,**
31 **as provided under chapter 590.**

1.480. For sections 1.410 to 1.485, the term "law-abiding citizen" shall mean a
2 **person who is not otherwise precluded under state law from possessing a firearm and shall**
3 **not be construed to include anyone who is not legally present in the United States or the**
4 **state of Missouri.**

1.485. If any provision of sections 1.410 to 1.485 or the application thereof to any
2 **person or circumstance is held invalid, such determination shall not affect the provisions**
3 **or applications of sections 1.410 to 1.485 that may be given effect without the invalid**
4 **provision or application, and the provisions of sections 1.410 to 1.485 are severable.**

~~[1.320. The general assembly of the state of Missouri strongly promotes
2 responsible gun ownership, including parental supervision of minors in the
3 proper use, storage, and ownership of all firearms, the prompt reporting of stolen
4 firearms, and the proper enforcement of all state gun laws. The general assembly
5 of the state of Missouri hereby condemns any unlawful transfer of firearms and
6 the use of any firearm in any criminal or unlawful activity.]~~

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