

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 979

102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE BLAND MANLOVE.

2142H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 571, RSMo, by adding thereto two new sections relating to the transfer of firearms, with penalty provisions.

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

Section A. Chapter 571, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto two new sections, to be known as sections 571.203 and 571.204, to read as follows:

571.203. As used in this section and section 571.204, the following terms mean:

- (1) "Law enforcement officer", any individual employed by the United States or by a state, county, city, municipality, village, township, or other political subdivision as a police officer or peace officer or in a similar position that involves the enforcement of the law and protection of the public interest;**
- (2) "Licensed dealer", a person who has a valid federal firearms dealer license and all additional licenses required by state or local law to engage in the business of selling or transferring firearms;**
- (3) "Person", any individual, corporation, company, association, firm, partnership, club, organization, society, joint stock company, or other entity.**

571.204. 1. No person shall sell or otherwise transfer a firearm or ammunition, including through online interactions, unless:

- (1) Such person is a licensed dealer;**
- (2) The purchaser or transferee is a licensed dealer; or**
- (3) The sale or transfer satisfies the requirements of subsection 2 or 3 of this section.**

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.

7 **2. If neither party to a firearm or ammunition transaction is a licensed dealer,**
8 **the parties shall have a licensed dealer facilitate the sale or transfer. A licensed dealer**
9 **shall process the sale or other transfer as if the licensed dealer is the seller or transferor.**
10 **If the sale or transfer is of ammunition, the licensed dealer shall comply with all**
11 **requirements of federal, state, and local law that would apply if the licensed dealer were**
12 **the seller or transferor and if the transaction were of a firearm. The licensed dealer**
13 **shall conduct a background check on the purchaser or transferee in accordance with 18**
14 **U.S.C. Section 922(t) and other state and local law and, if the transaction of a firearm to**
15 **the purchaser or transferee is not prohibited, deliver the firearm or ammunition to the**
16 **purchaser or transferee after all legal requirements are satisfied. The licensed dealer**
17 **may require the purchaser or transferee to pay a fee up to, but not to exceed, twenty-five**
18 **dollars for administrative costs incurred by the licensed dealer and pay other fees**
19 **pursuant to federal, state, and local law.**

20 **3. A trustee, under the authority of a trust, or a personal representative,**
21 **executor, or administrator of an estate shall, before transferring any firearm or**
22 **ammunition to an heir or devisee, have a licensed dealer facilitate the sale or transfer**
23 **through the process described under subsection 2 of this section. If the transfer of a**
24 **firearm to the heir or devisee is prohibited, the heir or devisee may:**

25 **(1) Transfer ownership of the firearm or ammunition to a specific individual,**
26 **provided the transfer to that individual is not prohibited under subsection 2 of this**
27 **section;**

28 **(2) Sell the firearm or ammunition to a licensed dealer; or**

29 **(3) Request a licensed dealer sell the firearm or ammunition on behalf of the heir**
30 **or devisee and receive the proceeds of the sale minus any fee.**

31 **4. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, neither the state nor a**
32 **political subdivision thereof shall require any licensed dealer to disclose transactions**
33 **conducted under the provisions of subsection 2 or 3 of this section. All records of**
34 **firearm or ammunition sales and transfers shall be maintained by the licensed dealer in**
35 **the same manner as the federal law requirements for the recording of firearm sales and**
36 **transfers.**

37 **5. The provisions of subsections 1 and 2 of this section shall not apply to:**

38 **(1) Any law enforcement agency or corrections agency or any law enforcement**
39 **officer or corrections officer acting within the course and scope of his or her**
40 **employment or official duties;**

41 **(2) A United States Marshal, a member of the United States Armed Forces or**
42 **National Guard, or a federal official transferring or receiving a firearm or ammunition**
43 **as required in the operation of his or her official duties;**

44 **(3) A gunsmith who receives a firearm or ammunition solely for the purposes of**
45 **service or repair of the firearm or to the return of a firearm or ammunition to its owner**
46 **by a gunsmith;**

47 **(4) A common carrier, warehouseman, or other person engaged in the business**
48 **of transportation or storage, to the extent that the receipt of any firearm or ammunition**
49 **is in the ordinary course of business and not for the personal use of any such person; or**

50 **(5) A person who transfers a firearm or ammunition to a relative who is related**
51 **within the first degree by consanguinity or affinity.**

52 **6. A violation of a provision of this section is a class B misdemeanor. Each day a**
53 **violation of this section is committed or continued shall be considered a separate**
54 **violation and punished accordingly.**

55 **7. In addition to any other penalty or remedy, the investigating law enforcement**
56 **agency shall report any violation of this section committed by a licensed dealer to the**
57 **attorney general, who shall report the violation to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,**
58 **Firearms and Explosives within the United States Department of Justice.**

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