

SENATE BILL 312

By Green

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39,
Chapter 17, Part 13, relative to historical military
weapons.

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the State of Tennessee to encourage the civilian ownership, preservation, and restoration of historical military arms, vehicles, and accessories, including those items that are useful in historical, military, and war reenactments, parades, and similar beneficial uses, and that this enactment be liberally construed to encourage such activities; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-1301(4), is amended by adding the following as a new subdivision:

(C) "Explosive weapon" does not include:

(i) Ammunition or ammunition components, including gunpowder, smokeless powder, or black powder, that are designed, intended, or used as:

(a) Blanks to give effect by sound or nonlethal observable effect;

or

(b) Practice rounds, including those containing small quantities of explosive materials, designed or intended for nonlethal use;

(ii) Other forms of ammunition or components possessed primarily for nonlethal demonstrative or recreational purposes; or

(iii) Other items owned, possessed, or used in accordance with federal law or pursuant to authorization issued by the bureau of alcohol, tobacco, firearms, and explosives;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-1301(11), is amended by adding the language “sequential” immediately before the language “shots automatically”.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-1301(13), is amended by deleting the subdivision and substituting instead the following:

(13) “Restricted firearm ammunition”:

(A) Means a cartridge:

(i) Containing a bullet coated with a plastic substance with other than a lead or lead alloy core;

(ii) Containing a jacketed bullet with other than a lead or lead alloy core; or

(iii) Of which the bullet itself is wholly composed of a metal or metal alloy other than lead; and

(B) Does not include:

(i) Shotgun shells;

(ii) Solid plastic bullets;

(iii) Blank ammunition; or

(iv) Ammunition designed and used primarily as a practice or dummy round;

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-1302(b), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

Involved acquisition or possession of any other item or accessory in accordance with the National Firearms Act (26 U.S.C. chapter 53), the Gun Control Act of 1968 (18 U.S.C. chapter 44), or any other statute or regulation under the administrative authority of the bureau of alcohol, tobacco, firearms, and explosives or pursuant to a letter of authorization issued by a state or federal entity having administrative jurisdiction over the item or accessory.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015, the public welfare requiring it.