

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 8991

To amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit a person from engaging in the business of destroying firearms unless such person has received a license to do so from the Attorney General, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 10, 2024

Mr. SCHIFF (for himself, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. AMO, and Mr. FROST) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit a person from engaging in the business of destroying firearms unless such person has received a license to do so from the Attorney General, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Firearm Destruction  
5 Licensure Act of 2024”.

1 **SEC. 2. LICENSE REQUIRED TO ENGAGE IN THE BUSINESS**  
2 **OF DESTROYING FIREARMS.**

3 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 921(a) of title 18, United  
4 States Code, is amended—

5 (1) in paragraph (11)—

6 (A) by striking “or (C)” and inserting  
7 “(C)”; and

8 (B) by inserting “, or (D) any person who  
9 is a firearm destroyer” after “pawnbroker”;

10 (2) in paragraph (21)—

11 (A) by redesignating subparagraphs (E)  
12 and (F) as subparagraphs (F) and (G), respec-  
13 tively; and

14 (B) by inserting after subparagraph (D)  
15 the following:

16 “(E) as applied to destroying firearms, engag-  
17 ing in a business or occupation that includes receiv-  
18 ing a firearm for the purposes of destroying such  
19 firearm;”; and

20 (3) by adding at the end the following:

21 “(38) The term ‘firearm destroyer’—

22 “(A) means any person engaged in the business  
23 of destroying firearms; and

24 “(B) does not include a local law enforcement  
25 authority, Federal law enforcement agency, or any

1 other entity of a Federal, State, local, or Tribal gov-  
2 ernment.

3 “(39) The term ‘covered method of firearm destruc-  
4 tion’ means a method that renders a firearm and all parts,  
5 attachments, accessories, or other components received  
6 with such firearm unable to be restored to working condi-  
7 tion and otherwise reduced to scrap.”.

8 (b) UNLAWFUL ACTS.—Section 922 of title 18,  
9 United States Code, is amended—

10 (1) in subsection (a)(1)—

11 (A) in subparagraph (A) by striking “; or”  
12 and inserting a semicolon;

13 (B) in subparagraph (B) by adding “or”  
14 at the end; and

15 (C) by adding at the end the following:

16 “(C) except a licensed dealer to engage in  
17 the business of destroying firearms;”; and

18 (2) in subsection (u) by inserting “destroying,”  
19 after “manufacturing,”.

20 (c) LICENSING.—Section 923 of title 18, United  
21 States Code, is amended—

22 (1) in subsection (a) by inserting “destroying,”  
23 before “or dealing”;

24 (2) in subsection (d)(1)(G)—

1 (A) by striking “that secure” and inserting  
2 the following: “that—

3 “(i) secure”;

4 (B) by striking the period at the end and  
5 inserting “; and”; and

6 (C) by adding at the end the following:

7 “(ii) if the applicant receives a firearm  
8 from a local law enforcement authority, Federal  
9 law enforcement agency, or any other entity of  
10 a Federal, State, local, or Tribal government  
11 for the purposes of destroying such firearm, the  
12 applicant will destroy such firearm using a cov-  
13 ered method of firearm destruction.”;

14 (3) in subsection (g)—

15 (A) in paragraph (1)(A) by inserting “de-  
16 struction,” after “sale,”; and

17 (B) by adding at the end the following:

18 “(8)(A) Not later than 1 year after the effective date  
19 of the Firearm Destruction Licensure Act of 2024, and  
20 each year thereafter, each licensed dealer who is a firearm  
21 destroyer shall submit a report to the Director of the Bu-  
22 reau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives on the  
23 number of firearms the licensed dealer destroyed during  
24 the previous year, including the number of firearms that  
25 the licensed dealer—

1           “(i) received for the purposes of destroying  
2 such firearms;

3           “(ii) received from a local law enforcement au-  
4 thority, Federal law enforcement agency, or any  
5 other entity of a Federal, State, local, or Tribal gov-  
6 ernment and destroyed using a covered method of  
7 firearm destruction; and

8           “(iii) destroyed other than pursuant to clause  
9 (ii), including the number of firearms whereby the li-  
10 censed dealer destroyed the frame, receiver, or other  
11 part, attachment, accessory, or other component of  
12 a firearm but did not render all parts, attachments,  
13 accessories, or other components received with such  
14 firearm unable to be restored to working condition  
15 and otherwise reduced to scrap.

16           “(B) The Attorney General, acting through the Di-  
17 rector of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and  
18 Explosives, shall make publicly available—

19           “(i) each report submitted under subparagraph  
20 (A); and

21           “(ii) an aggregate of the information submitted  
22 under subparagraph (A).”; and

23           (4) by adding at the end the following:

24           “(m) A licensed dealer who receives a firearm from  
25 a local law enforcement authority, Federal law enforce-

1 ment agency, or any other entity of a Federal, State, local,  
2 or Tribal government for the purposes of destroying such  
3 firearm shall—

4 “(1) destroy such firearm using a covered  
5 method of firearm destruction, unless the licensed  
6 dealer and such entity agree otherwise; and

7 “(2) make publicly available information re-  
8 garding any amount the licensed dealer charges a  
9 local law enforcement authority, Federal law en-  
10 forcement agency, or any other entity of a Federal,  
11 State, local, or Tribal government to destroy fire-  
12 arms.”.

13 (d) PENALTIES.—Section 924(a)(5) of title 18,  
14 United States Code, is amended by inserting “(a)(1)(C),”  
15 before “(s) or (t)”.

16 (e) GRANTS FOR DESTROYING FIREARMS.—The  
17 Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act (Public Law  
18 103–159) is amended by adding at the end the following:

19 **“SEC. 107. GRANTS FOR DESTROYING FIREARMS.**

20 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning not later than 1 year  
21 after the effective date of the Firearm Destruction Licen-  
22 sure Act of 2024, the Attorney General, acting through  
23 the Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms  
24 and Explosives, shall award grants to eligible entities for

1 the purposes of paying a licensed dealer to destroy fire-  
2 arms using a covered method of firearm destruction.

3 “(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 “(1) COVERED METHOD OF FIREARM DESTRUC-  
5 TION; LICENSED DEALER.—The terms ‘covered  
6 method of firearm destruction’ and ‘licensed dealer’  
7 have the meanings given such terms in section  
8 921(a) of title 18, United States Code.

9 “(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible en-  
10 tity’ means a State, local, or Tribal government.

11 “(3) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means each of  
12 the several States, the District of Columbia, and any  
13 commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United  
14 States.

15 “(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
16 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
17 such sums as may be necessary.”

18 (f) APPLICABILITY; RULEMAKING.—

19 (1) APPLICABILITY.—

20 (A) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made  
21 by this section shall apply with respect to a  
22 dealer who obtains a license under section 923  
23 of title 18, United States Code, prior to the ef-  
24 fective date of this section.

1 (B) CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE.—

2 Not later than the effective date of this section,  
3 a dealer who obtains a license under section  
4 923 of title 18, United States Code, prior to the  
5 effective date of this section shall submit to the  
6 Attorney General the certification required  
7 under section 923(d)(1)(G)(ii) of such title (as  
8 amended by this Act).

9 (C) FAILURE TO COMPLY.—The Attorney  
10 General may, after notice and opportunity for  
11 hearing, revoke the license of a dealer issued  
12 under section 923 of title 18, United States  
13 Code, if the holder of such license willfully vio-  
14 lates subparagraph (B).

15 (2) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 180 days  
16 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney  
17 General, acting through the Director of the Bureau  
18 of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, shall  
19 issue a final rule to implement this section, including  
20 by prescribing—

21 (A) acceptable methods of destruction to  
22 render a firearm and all parts, attachments, ac-  
23 cessories, or other components received with  
24 such firearm unable to be restored to working  
25 condition and otherwise reduced to scrap; and



1 (B) records or documents required to be  
2 kept by a licensed dealer who is a firearm de-  
3 stroyer.

4 (3) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection, the  
5 terms “dealer”, “firearm destroyer”, and “licensed  
6 dealer” have the meanings given such terms in sec-  
7 tion 921(a) of title 18, United States Code (as  
8 amended by this Act).

9 (g) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
10 this Act shall take effect 180 days after the date of enact-  
11 ment of this Act.

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