

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3253**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***David Paul Linsky***

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act to reduce gun violence and to protect the citizens of the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>David Paul Linsky</i>	<i>5th Middlesex</i>
<i>Lori A. Ehrlich</i>	<i>8th Essex</i>
<i>William N. Brownsberger</i>	<i>Second Suffolk and Middlesex</i>
<i>Frank I. Smizik</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>
<i>Sonia Chang-Diaz</i>	<i>Second Suffolk</i>
<i>Ellen Story</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>
<i>Ruth B. Balsler</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>
<i>Denise Andrews</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>Martha M. Walz</i>	<i>8th Suffolk</i>
<i>Thomas P. Conroy</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>
<i>Marcos A. Devers</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>
<i>Alice Hanlon Peisch</i>	<i>14th Norfolk</i>
<i>John D. Keenan</i>	<i>7th Essex</i>
<i>Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>

<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>
<i>John J. Mahoney</i>	<i>13th Worcester</i>
<i>Cory Atkins</i>	<i>14th Middlesex</i>
<i>Katherine M. Clark</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>
<i>Byron Rushing</i>	<i>9th Suffolk</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3253**

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By Mr. Linsky of Natick, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3253) of David Paul Linsky and others relative to further regulating the licensing, sale and possession of firearms and increasing the tax on the sale of firearms and ammunition. Public Safety and Homeland Security.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act to reduce gun violence and to protect the citizens of the Commonwealth.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1: Section 131 of the Chapter 140 of the General Laws is hereby repealed  
2 and replaced with the following:

3 All licenses to carry firearms shall be designated Class A or Class B, and the issuance  
4 and possession of any such license shall be subject to the following conditions and restrictions:

5 (a) A Class A license shall entitle a holder thereof to purchase, rent, lease, borrow,  
6 possess and carry: (i) firearms, including ammunition therefor, for all lawful purposes, subject to  
7 such restrictions relative to the possession, use or carrying of firearms as the licensing authority  
8 deems proper; and (ii) non-large capacity rifles and shotguns, including ammunition therefor, for  
9 all lawful purposes; provided, however, that the licensing authority may impose such restrictions  
10 relative to the possession, use or carrying of firearms, rifles and shotguns as it deems proper. A  
11 violation of a restriction imposed by the licensing authority under the provisions of this  
12 paragraph shall be cause for suspension or revocation and shall, unless otherwise provided, be  
13 punished by a fine of not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$10,000; provided, however, that the  
14 provisions of section 10 of chapter 269 shall not apply to such violation.

15 The colonel of state police may, after an investigation, grant a Class A license to a club or  
16 facility with an on-site shooting range or gallery, which club is incorporated under the laws of  
17 the commonwealth for the possession, storage and use of assault weapons, large capacity  
18 weapons, ammunition therefor and large capacity feeding devices for use with such weapons on  
19 the premises of such club; provided, however, that not less than one shareholder of such club

20 shall be qualified and suitable to be issued such license; and provided further, that such large  
21 capacity weapons and ammunition feeding devices may be used under such Class A club license  
22 only by such members that possess a valid firearm identification card issued under section 129B  
23 or a valid Class A or Class B license to carry firearms, or by such other persons that the club  
24 permits while under the direct supervision of a certified firearms safety instructor or club  
25 member who, in the case of a large capacity firearm, possesses a valid Class A license to carry  
26 firearms or, in the case of a large capacity rifle or shotgun, possesses a valid Class A or Class B  
27 license to carry firearms. Such club shall not permit shooting at targets that depict human figures,  
28 human effigies, human silhouettes or any human images thereof, except by public safety  
29 personnel performing in line with their official duties.

30 No large capacity weapon or large capacity feeding device shall be removed from the  
31 premises except for the purposes of: (i) transferring such firearm or feeding device to a licensed  
32 dealer; (ii) transporting such firearm or feeding device to a licensed gunsmith for repair; (iii)  
33 target, trap or skeet shooting on the premises of another club incorporated under the laws of the  
34 commonwealth and for transporting thereto; (iv) attending an exhibition or educational project or  
35 event that is sponsored by, conducted under the supervision of or approved by a public law  
36 enforcement agency or a nationally or state recognized entity that promotes proficiency in or  
37 education about semiautomatic weapons and for transporting thereto and therefrom; or (v)  
38 surrendering such firearm or feeding device under the provisions of section 129D. Any large  
39 capacity weapon or large capacity feeding device kept on the premises of a lawfully incorporated  
40 shooting club shall, when not in use, be secured in a locked container, and shall be unloaded  
41 during any lawful transport. The clerk or other corporate officer of such club shall annually file a  
42 report with the colonel of state police and the commissioner of the department of criminal justice  
43 information services listing all large capacity weapons and large capacity feeding devices owned  
44 or possessed under such license. The colonel of state police or his designee, shall have the right  
45 to inspect all firearms owned or possessed by such club upon request during regular business  
46 hours and said colonel may revoke or suspend a club license for a violation of any provision of  
47 this chapter or chapter 269 relative to the ownership, use or possession of large capacity weapons  
48 or large capacity feeding devices.

49 (b) A Class B license shall entitle a holder thereof to purchase, rent, lease, borrow,  
50 possess and carry: (i) non-large capacity firearms and feeding devices and ammunition therefor,  
51 for all lawful purposes, subject to such restrictions relative to the possession, use or carrying of  
52 such firearm as the licensing authority deems proper; provided, however, that a Class B license  
53 shall not entitle the holder thereof to carry or possess a loaded firearm in a concealed manner in  
54 any public way or place; and provided further, that a Class B license shall not entitle the holder  
55 thereof to possess a large capacity firearm, except under a Class A club license issued under this  
56 section or under the direct supervision of a holder of a valid Class A license at an incorporated  
57 shooting club or licensed shooting range; and (ii) rifles and shotguns, including ammunition  
58 therefor, for all lawful purposes; provided, however, that the licensing authority may impose

59 such restrictions relative to the possession, use or carrying of firearms, rifles and shotguns as he  
60 deems proper. A violation of a restriction provided under this paragraph, or a restriction imposed  
61 by the licensing authority under the provisions of this paragraph, shall be cause for suspension or  
62 revocation and shall, unless otherwise provided, be punished by a fine of not less than \$1,000 nor  
63 more than \$10,000; provided, however, that the provisions of section 10 of chapter 269 shall not  
64 apply to such violation.

65 A Class B license shall not be a valid license for the purpose of complying with any  
66 provision under this chapter governing the possession, purchase, sale, lease, rental or transfer of  
67 any weapon or ammunition feeding device if such weapon is a large capacity firearm or if such  
68 ammunition feeding device is a large capacity feeding device for use with a large capacity  
69 firearm, both as defined in section 121.

70 (c) Either a Class A or Class B license shall be valid for the purpose of owning,  
71 possessing, purchasing and transferring non-large capacity rifles and shotguns, and for  
72 purchasing and possessing chemical mace, pepper spray or other similarly propelled liquid, gas  
73 or powder designed to temporarily incapacitate, consistent with the entitlements conferred by a  
74 firearm identification card issued under section 129B.

75 (d) Any person residing or having a place of business within the jurisdiction of the  
76 licensing authority or any law enforcement officer employed by the licensing authority or any  
77 person residing in an area of exclusive federal jurisdiction located within a city or town may  
78 submit to such licensing authority or the colonel of state police, an application for a Class A or  
79 Class B license to carry firearms, or renewal of the same, which such licensing authority or said  
80 colonel may issue if it appears that the applicant is a suitable person to be issued such license,  
81 and that the applicant has good reason to fear injury to his person or property, or for any other  
82 reason, including the carrying of firearms for use in sport or target practice only, subject to such  
83 restrictions expressed or authorized under this section, unless the applicant:

84 (i) has ever as an adult in a court of the commonwealth or in any other state or federal  
85 jurisdiction been convicted, or in a court of the commonwealth or in any other state or federal  
86 jurisdiction been adjudicated a youthful offender or delinquent child, both as defined in section  
87 52 of chapter 119, for the commission of: (a) a felony; (b) a misdemeanor punishable by  
88 imprisonment for more than two years; (c) a violent crime as defined in section 121; (d) a  
89 violation of any law regulating the use, possession, ownership, transfer, purchase, sale, lease,  
90 rental, receipt or transportation of weapons or ammunition for which a term of imprisonment of  
91 one year or more may be imposed; or (e) a violation of any law regulating the use, possession or  
92 sale of controlled substances, as defined in section 1 of chapter 94C including, but not limited to,  
93 a violation under said chapter 94C; or (f) knowingly filing a application for a firearms  
94 identification card of license to carry firearms containing false information; provided, however,  
95 that except for the commission of a violent crime or a crime involving the trafficking of  
96 controlled substances or firearms, if the applicant has been so convicted or adjudicated or

97 released from confinement, probation or parole supervision for such conviction or adjudication,  
98 whichever is last occurring, not less than five years immediately preceding such application,  
99 such applicant's right or ability to possess a non-large capacity rifle or shotgun shall be deemed  
100 restored in the commonwealth with respect to such conviction or adjudication and such  
101 conviction or adjudication shall not disqualify such applicant for a firearm identification card;

102 (ii) has been confined to any hospital or institution for mental illness, unless the applicant  
103 submits with his application an affidavit of a registered physician attesting that such physician is  
104 familiar with the applicant's mental illness and that in such physician's opinion the applicant is  
105 not disabled by such an illness in a manner that should prevent such applicant from possessing a  
106 firearm;

107 (iii) is or has been under treatment for or confinement for drug addiction or habitual  
108 drunkenness, unless such applicant is deemed to be cured of such condition by a licensed  
109 physician, and such applicant may make application for such license after the expiration of five  
110 years from the date of such confinement or treatment and upon presentment of an affidavit issued  
111 by such physician stating that such physician knows the applicant's history of treatment and that  
112 in such physician's opinion the applicant is deemed cured;

113 (iv) is at the time of the application less than 21 years of age;

114 (v) is an alien other than a lawful permanent resident alien;

115 (vi) is currently subject to: (A) an order for suspension or surrender issued pursuant to  
116 section 3B or 3C of chapter 209A or a similar order issued by another jurisdiction; or (B) a  
117 permanent or temporary protection order issued pursuant to chapter 209A or a similar order  
118 issued by another jurisdiction; or

119 (vii) is currently the subject of an outstanding arrest warrant in any state or federal  
120 jurisdiction.

121 (e) Within seven days of the receipt of a completed application for a license to carry or  
122 possess firearms, or renewal of same, the licensing authority shall forward one copy of the  
123 application and one copy of the applicant's fingerprints to the colonel of state police, who shall  
124 within 30 days advise the licensing authority, in writing, of any disqualifying criminal record of  
125 the applicant arising from within or without the commonwealth and whether there is reason to  
126 believe that the applicant is disqualified for any of the foregoing reasons from possessing a  
127 license to carry or possess firearms. In searching for any disqualifying history of the applicant,  
128 the colonel shall utilize, or cause to be utilized, files maintained by the department of probation  
129 and statewide and nationwide criminal justice, warrant and protection order information systems  
130 and files including, but not limited to, the National Instant Criminal Background Check System.  
131 The colonel shall inquire of the commissioner of the department of mental health relative to  
132 whether the applicant is disqualified from being so licensed. If the information available to the

133 colonel does not indicate that the possession of a firearm or large capacity firearm by the  
134 applicant would be in violation of state or federal law, he shall certify such fact, in writing, to the  
135 licensing authority within said 30 day period.

136 The licensing authority may also make inquiries concerning the applicant to: (i) the  
137 commissioner of the department of criminal justice information services relative to any  
138 disqualifying condition and records of purchases, sales, rentals, leases and transfers of weapons  
139 or ammunition concerning the applicant; (ii) the commissioner of probation relative to any  
140 record contained within the department of probation or the statewide domestic violence record  
141 keeping system concerning the applicant; and (iii) the commissioner of the department of mental  
142 health relative to whether the applicant is a suitable person to possess firearms or is not a suitable  
143 person to possess firearms. The director or commissioner to whom the licensing authority makes  
144 such inquiry shall provide prompt and full cooperation for that purpose in any investigation of  
145 the applicant. The licensing authority shall request copies of mental health records for the  
146 applicant from all providers of mental health services that are disclosed on the application.

147 The licensing authority shall, within 40 days from the date of application, either approve  
148 the application and issue the license or deny the application and notify the applicant of the reason  
149 for such denial in writing; provided, however, that no such license shall be issued unless the  
150 colonel has certified, in writing, that the information available to him does not indicate that the  
151 possession of a firearm or large capacity firearm by the applicant would be in violation of state  
152 or federal law.

153 (f) A license issued under this section shall be revoked or suspended by the licensing  
154 authority, or his designee, upon the occurrence of any event that would have disqualified the  
155 holder from being issued such license or from having such license renewed. A license may be  
156 revoked or suspended by the licensing authority if it appears that the holder is no longer a  
157 suitable person to possess such license. Any revocation or suspension of a license shall be in  
158 writing and shall state the reasons therefor. Upon revocation or suspension, the licensing  
159 authority shall take possession of such license and the person whose license is so revoked or  
160 suspended shall take all actions required under the provisions of section 129D. No appeal or  
161 post-judgment motion shall operate to stay such revocation or suspension. Notices of revocation  
162 and suspension shall be forwarded to the commissioner of the department of criminal justice  
163 information services and the commissioner of probation and shall be included in the criminal  
164 justice information system. A revoked or suspended license may be reinstated only upon the  
165 termination of all disqualifying conditions, if any.

166 Any applicant or holder aggrieved by a denial, revocation or suspension of a license,  
167 unless a hearing has previously been held pursuant to chapter 209A, may, within either 90 days  
168 after receiving notice of such denial, revocation or suspension or within 90 days after the  
169 expiration of the time limit during which the licensing authority is required to respond to the  
170 applicant, file a petition to obtain judicial review in the district court having jurisdiction in the

171 city or town wherein the applicant filed for, or was issued, such license. A justice of such court,  
172 after a hearing, may direct that a license be issued or reinstated to the petitioner if such justice  
173 finds that there was no reasonable ground for denying, suspending or revoking such license and  
174 that the petitioner is not prohibited by law from possessing same.

175 (g) A license shall be in a standard form provided by the executive director of the  
176 criminal history systems board in a size and shape equivalent to that of a license to operate motor  
177 vehicles issued by the registry of motor vehicles pursuant to section 8 of chapter 90 and shall  
178 contain a license number which shall clearly indicate whether such number identifies a Class A  
179 or Class B license, the name, address, photograph, fingerprint, place and date of birth, height,  
180 weight, hair color, eye color and signature of the licensee. Such license shall be marked "License  
181 to Carry Firearms" and shall clearly indicate whether the license is Class A or Class B. The  
182 application for such license shall be made in a standard form provided by the executive director  
183 of the criminal history systems board, which form shall require the applicant to affirmatively  
184 state under the pains and penalties of perjury that such applicant is not disqualified on any of the  
185 grounds enumerated above from being issued such license.

186 (h) Any person who knowingly files an application containing false information shall be  
187 punished by a fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$1,000 or by imprisonment for not less  
188 than six months nor more than two years in a house of correction, or by not more than ten years  
189 in state prison, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

190 (i) A license to carry or possess firearms shall be valid, unless revoked or suspended, for  
191 a period of not more than 6 years from the date of issue and shall expire on the anniversary of the  
192 licensee's date of birth occurring not less than 5 years but not more than 6 years from the date of  
193 issue, except that if the licensee applied for renewal before the license expired, the license shall  
194 remain valid for a period of 90 days beyond the stated expiration date on the license, unless the  
195 application for renewal is denied if the licensee is on active duty with the armed forces of the  
196 United States on the expiration date of his license, the license shall remain valid until the  
197 licensee is released from active duty and for a period of not less than 90 days following such  
198 release. Any renewal thereof shall expire on the anniversary of the licensee's date of birth  
199 occurring not less than 5 years but not more than 6 years from the effective date of such license.  
200 Any license issued to an applicant born on February 29 shall expire on March 1. The fee for the  
201 application shall be \$100, which shall be payable to the licensing authority and shall not be  
202 prorated or refunded in case of revocation or denial. The licensing authority shall retain \$25 of  
203 the fee; \$50 of the fee shall be deposited into the general fund of the commonwealth and not less  
204 than \$50,000 of the funds deposited into the General Fund shall be allocated to the Firearm  
205 Licensing Review Board, established in section 130B, for its operations and that any funds not  
206 expended by said board for its operations shall revert back to the General Fund; and \$25 of the  
207 fee shall be deposited in the Firearms Fingerprint Identity Verification Trust Fund. For law  
208 enforcement officials, or local, state, or federal government entities acting on their behalf, the fee  
209 for the application shall be set at \$25, which shall be payable to the licensing authority and shall



210 not be prorated or refunded in case of revocation or denial. The licensing authority shall retain  
211 \$12.50 of the fee, and \$12.50 of the fee shall be deposited into the general fund of the  
212 commonwealth. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, licensing authorities  
213 shall deposit such portion of the license application fee into the Firearms Record Keeping Fund  
214 quarterly, not later than January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1 of each year. Notwithstanding  
215 any general or special law to the contrary, licensing authorities shall deposit quarterly such  
216 portion of the license application fee as is to be deposited into the General Fund, not later than  
217 January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1 of each year. For the purposes of section 10 of chapter  
218 269, an expired license to carry firearms shall be deemed to be valid for a period not to exceed  
219 90 days beyond the stated date of expiration, unless such license to carry firearms has been  
220 revoked.

221 Any person over the age of 70 and any law enforcement officer applying for a license to  
222 carry firearms through his employing agency shall be exempt from the requirement of paying a  
223 renewal fee for a Class A or Class B license to carry.

224 (j)(1) No license shall be required for the carrying or possession of a firearm  
225 known as a detonator and commonly used on vehicles as a signaling and marking device, when  
226 carried or possessed for such signaling or marking purposes.

227 (2) No license to carry shall be required for the possession of an unloaded large  
228 capacity rifle or shotgun or an unloaded feeding device therefor by a veteran's organization  
229 chartered by the Congress of the United States, chartered by the commonwealth or recognized as  
230 a nonprofit tax-exempt organization by the Internal Revenue Service, or by the members of any  
231 such organization when on official parade duty or during ceremonial occasions. For purposes of  
232 this subparagraph, an "unloaded large capacity rifle or shotgun" and an "unloaded feeding device  
233 therefor" shall include any large capacity rifle, shotgun or feeding device therefor loaded with a  
234 blank cartridge or blank cartridges, so-called, which contain no projectile within such blank or  
235 blanks or within the bore or chamber of such large capacity rifle or shotgun.

236 (k) Whoever knowingly issues a license in violation of this section shall be punished by  
237 a fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$1,000 or by imprisonment for not less than six  
238 months nor more than two years in a jail or house of correction, or by both such fine and  
239 imprisonment.

240 (l) The executive director of the criminal history systems board shall send  
241 electronically or by first class mail to the holder of each such license to carry firearms, a notice  
242 of the expiration of such license not less than 90 days prior to such expiration and shall enclose  
243 therein a form for the renewal of such license. The taking of fingerprints shall not be required in  
244 issuing the renewal of a license if the renewal applicant's fingerprints are on file with the  
245 department of the state police. Any licensee shall notify, in writing, the licensing authority who  
246 issued said license, the chief of police into whose jurisdiction the licensee moves and the

247 executive director of the criminal history systems board of any change of address. Such  
248 notification shall be made by certified mail within 30 days of its occurrence. Failure to so notify  
249 shall be cause for revocation or suspension of said license. The commissioner of criminal justice  
250 information services shall provide electronic notice of expiration only upon the request of a  
251 cardholder. A request for electronic notice of expiration shall be forwarded to the department on  
252 a form furnished by the commissioner. Any electronic address maintained by the department for  
253 the purpose of providing electronic notice of expiration shall be considered a firearms record and  
254 shall not be disclosed except as provided in section 10 of chapter 66.

255 (m) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10 of chapter 269, any person in  
256 possession of a firearm, rifle or shotgun whose license issued under this section is invalid for the  
257 sole reason that it has expired, meaning after 90 days beyond the stated expiration date on the  
258 license, but who shall not be disqualified from renewal upon application therefor under this  
259 section, shall be subject to a civil fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$5,000 and the  
260 provisions of section 10 of chapter 269 shall not apply; provided, however, that the exemption  
261 from the provisions of said section 10 of said chapter 269 provided herein shall not apply if: (i)  
262 such license has been revoked or suspended, unless such revocation or suspension was caused by  
263 failure to give notice of a change of address as required under this section; (ii) revocation or  
264 suspension of such license is pending, unless such revocation or suspension was caused by  
265 failure to give notice of a change of address as required under this section; or (iii) an application  
266 for renewal of such license has been denied. Any law enforcement officer who discovers a  
267 person to be in possession of a firearm, rifle or shotgun after such person's license has expired,  
268 meaning after 90 days beyond the stated expiration date on the license, or has been revoked or  
269 suspended, solely for failure to give notice of a change of address, shall confiscate such firearm,  
270 rifle or shotgun and the expired or suspended license then in possession and such officer, shall  
271 forward such license to the licensing authority by whom it was issued as soon as practicable. The  
272 officer shall, at the time of confiscation, provide to the person whose firearm, rifle or shotgun has  
273 been confiscated, a written inventory and receipt for all firearms, rifles or shotguns confiscated  
274 and the officer and his employer shall exercise due care in the handling, holding and storage of  
275 these items. Any confiscated weapon shall be returned to the owner upon the renewal or  
276 reinstatement of such expired or suspended license within one year of such confiscation or may  
277 be otherwise disposed of in accordance with the provisions of section 129D. The provisions of  
278 this paragraph shall not apply if such person has a valid license to carry firearms issued under  
279 section 131F.

280 (n) Upon issuance of a license to carry or possess firearms under this section, the  
281 licensing authority shall forward a copy of such approved application and license to the  
282 executive director of the criminal history systems board, who shall inform the licensing authority  
283 forthwith of the existence of any disqualifying condition discovered or occurring subsequent to  
284 the issuance of a license under this section.

285 (o) No person shall be issued a license to carry or possess a machine gun in the  
286 commonwealth, except that a licensing authority or the colonel of state police may issue a  
287 machine gun license to:

288 (i) a firearm instructor certified by the municipal police training committee  
289 for the sole purpose of firearm instruction to police personnel;

290 (ii) a bona fide collector of firearms upon application or upon application  
291 for renewal of such license.

292 (p) The executive director of the criminal history systems board shall promulgate  
293 regulations in accordance with chapter 30A to establish criteria for persons who shall be  
294 classified as bona fide collectors of firearms.

295 (q) Nothing in this section shall authorize the purchase, possession or transfer of  
296 any weapon, ammunition or feeding device that is, or in such manner that is, prohibited by state  
297 or federal law.

298 (r) The secretary of the executive office of public safety or his designee may promulgate  
299 regulations to carry out the purposes of this section.

300 (s) No license issued under this section shall permit the licensee to purchase, rent, lease,  
301 borrow, possess or carry any assault weapon, large-capacity weapon, or large capacity feeding  
302 device, as defined in Section 121 of Chapter 140, except while on the premises of a club or  
303 facility with an on-site shooting range or gallery with a Class A license issued by the Colonel of  
304 the State Police pursuant to paragraph (a).

305 (t) An applicant for a license shall sign a waiver at the time of application allowing the  
306 licensing authority access to any records that have a bearing on the mental health of the  
307 applicant. The permit application form and the waiver form shall be prescribed by the Secretary  
308 of Public Safety and shall be uniform throughout the Commonwealth. Said form shall require an  
309 applicant to disclose all providers of mental health treatment or services for 20 years prior to the  
310 date of application.

311 (u) A health care provider or public health authority shall disclose health information,  
312 including protected health care information, relating to any individual's mental health history, to  
313 the licensing authority in a timely manner in response to a request for the information from the  
314 authority; provided that:

315 (i) the information shall be used only for the purpose of evaluating the individual's  
316 suitability for a license under this section;

317 (ii) the individual has executed a waiver permitting release of the health information for  
318 the purpose; And,

319 (iii) said health information shall be destroyed by the licensing authority within 30 days  
320 following the issuing of a license or the outcome of any appeal.

321 (v) In making the determination if an applicant is a suitable person to be issued a  
322 license pursuant to this section, the licensing authority shall consider the applicant's stated  
323 purpose and intended use of said license, the applicant's experience, training and familiarity with  
324 firearms, rifles and shotguns, the applicant's general mental and physical health, the applicant's  
325 age and maturity, and any such factors as the licensing authority may deem relevant.

326 SECTION 2: Section 129B of Chapter 140 of the General Laws is hereby replaced with  
327 the following: -

328 A firearm identification card shall be issued and possessed subject to the following  
329 conditions and restrictions:

330 (1) Any person residing or having a place of business within the jurisdiction of the  
331 licensing authority or any person residing in an area of exclusive federal jurisdiction located  
332 within a city or town may submit to the licensing authority an application for a firearm  
333 identification card, or renewal of the same, which the licensing authority may issue, if it appears  
334 that the applicant is a suitable person to be issued such a license, unless the applicant:

335 (i) has ever as an adult in a court of the commonwealth or in any other state or federal  
336 jurisdiction been convicted, or in a court of the commonwealth or in any other state or federal  
337 jurisdiction been adjudicated a youthful offender or delinquent child, both as defined in section  
338 52 of chapter 119, for the commission of: (a) a felony; (b) a misdemeanor punishable by  
339 imprisonment for more than two years; (c) a violent crime as defined in section 121; (d) a  
340 violation of any law regulating the use, possession, ownership, transfer, purchase, sale, lease,  
341 rental, receipt or transportation of weapons or ammunition for which a term of imprisonment of  
342 one year or more may be imposed; or (e) a violation of any law regulating the use, possession or  
343 sale of controlled substances, as defined in section 1 of chapter 94C including, but not limited to,  
344 a violation under said chapter 94C; or (f) knowingly filing a application for a firearms  
345 identification card of license to carry firearms containing false information; provided, however,  
346 that except for the commission of a violent crime or a crime involving the trafficking of  
347 controlled substances or firearms, if the applicant has been so convicted or adjudicated or  
348 released from confinement, probation or parole supervision for such conviction or adjudication,  
349 whichever is last occurring, not less than five years immediately preceding such application,  
350 such applicant's right or ability to possess a non-large capacity rifle or shotgun shall be deemed  
351 restored in the commonwealth with respect to such conviction or adjudication and such  
352 conviction or adjudication shall not disqualify such applicant for a firearm identification card;

353 (ii) has, in any other state or federal jurisdiction, been convicted or  
354 adjudicated a youthful offender or delinquent child for the commission of: (a) a felony; (b) a  
355 misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for more than two years; (c) a violent crime as

356 defined in section 121; (d) a violation of any law regulating the use, possession, ownership,  
357 transfer, purchase, sale, lease, rental, receipt or transportation of weapons or ammunition for  
358 which a term of imprisonment may be imposed; or (e) a violation of any law regulating the use,  
359 possession or sale of controlled substances, as defined in section 1 of chapter 94C; provided,  
360 however, that, except for the commission of a violent crime or a crime involving the trafficking  
361 of weapons or controlled substances, if the applicant has been so convicted or adjudicated or  
362 released from confinement, probation or parole supervision for such conviction or adjudication,  
363 whichever is last occurring, not less than five years immediately preceding such application, and  
364 such applicant's right or ability to possess a rifle or shotgun has been fully restored in the  
365 jurisdiction wherein the subject conviction or adjudication was entered, such conviction or  
366 adjudication shall not disqualify such applicant for a firearm identification card;

367 (iii) has been confined to any hospital or institution for mental illness,  
368 unless the applicant submits with his application an affidavit of a registered physician attesting  
369 that such physician is familiar with the applicant's mental illness and that in such physician's  
370 opinion the applicant is not disabled by such an illness in a manner that should prevent the  
371 applicant from possessing a firearm, rifle or shotgun;

372 (iv) is or has been under treatment for or confinement for drug addiction  
373 or habitual drunkenness, unless such applicant is deemed to be cured of such condition by a  
374 licensed physician, in which case he may make application for such card after the expiration of  
375 five years from the date of such confinement or treatment and upon presentation of an affidavit  
376 issued by such physician to the effect that such physician knows the applicant's history of  
377 treatment and that in such physician's opinion the applicant is deemed cured;

378 (v) is at the time of the application less than 15 years of age;

379 (vi) is at the time of the application more than 15 but less than 18 years of  
380 age, unless the applicant submits with his application a certificate of his parent or guardian  
381 granting the applicant permission to apply for a card;

382 (vii) is an alien other than a lawful permanent resident alien;

383 (viii) is currently subject to: (a) an order for suspension or surrender issued  
384 pursuant to section 3B or 3C of chapter 209A or a similar order issued by another jurisdiction; or  
385 (b) a permanent or temporary protection order issued pursuant to chapter 209A or a similar order  
386 issued by another jurisdiction; or

387 (ix) is currently the subject of an outstanding arrest warrant in any state or  
388 federal jurisdiction.

389 (2) Within seven days of the receipt of a completed application for a card, the  
390 licensing authority shall forward one copy of the application and one copy of the applicant's

391 fingerprints to the colonel of state police, who shall, within 30 days, advise the licensing  
392 authority, in writing, of any disqualifying criminal record of the applicant arising from within or  
393 without the commonwealth and whether there is reason to believe that the applicant is  
394 disqualified for any of the foregoing reasons from possessing a card; provided, however, that the  
395 taking of fingerprints shall not be required in issuing the renewal of a card if the renewal  
396 applicant's fingerprints are on file with the department of state police. In searching for any  
397 disqualifying history of the applicant, the colonel shall utilize, or cause to be utilized, files  
398 maintained by the department of mental health, department of probation and statewide and  
399 nationwide criminal justice, warrant and protection order information systems and files  
400 including, but not limited to, the National Instant Criminal Background Check System. If the  
401 information available to the colonel does not indicate that the possession of a non-large capacity  
402 rifle or shotgun by the applicant would be in violation of state or federal law, he shall certify  
403 such fact, in writing, to the licensing authority within such 30 day period.

404           The licensing authority may also make inquiries concerning the applicant to: (i) the  
405 commissioner of the department of criminal justice information services relative to any  
406 disqualifying condition and records of purchases, sales, rentals, leases and transfers of weapons  
407 or ammunition concerning the applicant; (ii) the commissioner of probation relative to any  
408 record contained within the department of probation or the statewide domestic violence record  
409 keeping system concerning the applicant; and (iii) the commissioner of the department of mental  
410 health relative to whether the applicant is a suitable person to possess firearms or is not a suitable  
411 person to possess firearms. The director or commissioner to whom the licensing authority makes  
412 such inquiry shall provide prompt and full cooperation for that purpose in any investigation of  
413 the applicant. The licensing authority shall request copies of mental health records for the  
414 applicant from all providers of mental health services that are disclosed on the application.

415           (3) The licensing authority shall, within 40 days from the date of application,  
416 either approve the application and issue the license or deny the application and notify the  
417 applicant of the reason for such denial in writing; provided, however, that no such card shall be  
418 issued unless the colonel has certified, in writing, that the information available to him does not  
419 indicate that the possession of a rifle or shotgun by the applicant would be in violation of state or  
420 federal law.

421           (4) A firearm identification card shall be revoked or suspended by the licensing  
422 authority or his designee upon the occurrence of any event that would have disqualified the  
423 holder from being issued such card or from having such card renewed or for a violation of a  
424 restriction provided under this section. Such card may be revoked or suspended by the licensing  
425 authority if it appears that the holder is no longer a suitable person to possess such card. Any  
426 revocation or suspension of a card shall be in writing and shall state the reasons therefor. Upon  
427 revocation or suspension, the licensing authority shall take possession of such card and receipt  
428 for fee paid for such card, and the person whose card is so revoked or suspended shall take all  
429 action required under the provisions of section 129D. No appeal or post-judgment motion shall

430 operate to stay such revocation or suspension. Notices of revocation and suspension shall be  
431 forwarded to the commissioner of the department of criminal justice information services and the  
432 commissioner of probation and shall be included in the criminal justice information system. A  
433 revoked or suspended card may be reinstated only upon the termination of all disqualifying  
434 conditions.

435 (5) Any applicant or holder aggrieved by a denial, revocation or suspension of a  
436 firearm identification card, unless a hearing has previously been held pursuant to chapter 209A,  
437 may, within either 90 days after receipt of notice of such denial, revocation or suspension or  
438 within 90 days after the expiration of the time limit in which the licensing authority is required to  
439 respond to the applicant, file a petition to obtain judicial review in the district court having  
440 jurisdiction in the city or town wherein the applicant filed for or was issued such card. A justice  
441 of such court, after a hearing, may direct that a card be issued or reinstated to the petitioner if  
442 such justice finds that there was no reasonable ground for denying, suspending or revoking such  
443 license and that the petitioner is not prohibited by law from possessing same.

444 (6) A firearm identification card shall not entitle a holder thereof to possess: (i) a  
445 large capacity firearm or large capacity feeding device therefor, except under a Class A license  
446 issued to a shooting club as provided under section 131 or under the direct supervision of a  
447 holder of a Class A license issued to an individual under section 131 at an incorporated shooting  
448 club or licensed shooting range; or (ii) a non-large capacity firearm or large capacity rifle or  
449 shotgun or large capacity feeding device therefor, except under a Class A license issued to a  
450 shooting club as provided under section 131 or under the direct supervision of a holder of a Class  
451 A or Class B license issued to an individual under section 131 at an incorporated shooting club  
452 or licensed shooting range. A firearm identification card shall not entitle a holder thereof to  
453 possess any rifle or shotgun that is, or in such manner that is, otherwise prohibited by law. A  
454 firearm identification card shall be valid for the purpose of purchasing and possessing chemical  
455 mace, pepper spray or other similarly propelled liquid, gas or powder designed to temporarily  
456 incapacitate. Except as otherwise provided herein, a firearm identification card shall not be valid  
457 for the use, possession, ownership, transfer, purchase, sale, lease, rental or transportation of a  
458 rifle or shotgun if such rifle or shotgun is a large capacity weapon as defined in section 121.

459 (7) A firearm identification card shall be in a standard form provided by the  
460 commissioner of the department of criminal justice information services in a size and shape  
461 equivalent to that of a license to operate motor vehicles issued by the registry of motor vehicles  
462 pursuant to section 8 of chapter 90 and shall contain an identification number, name, address,  
463 photograph, fingerprint, place and date of birth, height, weight, hair color, eye color and  
464 signature of the cardholder and shall be marked "Firearm Identification Card". If a firearm  
465 identification card is issued for the sole purpose of purchasing or possessing chemical mace,  
466 pepper spray or other similarly propelled liquid, gas or powder designed to temporarily  
467 incapacitate, such card shall clearly state that such card is valid for such limited purpose only.  
468 The application for such card shall be made in a standard form provided by the commissioner of

469 the department of criminal justice information services which shall require the applicant to  
470 affirmatively state, under the pains and penalties of perjury, that he is not disqualified on any of  
471 the grounds enumerated in clauses (i) to (ix), inclusive, from being issued such card.

472 (8) Any person who knowingly files an application containing false information  
473 shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$1,000 or by imprisonment for  
474 not less than six months nor more than two years in a house of correction, or by not more than  
475 ten years in state prison, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

476 (9) A firearm identification card shall be valid, unless revoked or suspended, for a  
477 period of not more than 6 years from the date of issue, except that if the cardholder applied for  
478 renewal before the card expired, the card shall remain valid for a period of 90 days after the  
479 stated expiration date on the card, unless the application for renewal is denied; provided,  
480 however, that if the cardholder is on active duty with the armed forces of the United States on the  
481 expiration date of his card, the card shall remain valid until the cardholder is released from active  
482 duty and for a period of not less than 90 days following such release. A card issued on February  
483 29 shall expire on March 1. The executive director of the criminal history systems board shall  
484 send electronically or by first class mail to the holder of a firearm identification card, a notice of  
485 the expiration of the card not less than 90 days before its expiration, and shall enclose with the  
486 notice a form for the renewal of the card. The executive director of the criminal history systems  
487 board shall include in the notice all pertinent information about the penalties that may be  
488 imposed if the firearm identification card is not renewed within the 90 days before expiration.  
489 The commissioner of criminal justice information services shall provide electronic notice of  
490 expiration only upon the request of a cardholder. A request for electronic notice of expiration  
491 shall be forwarded to the department on a form furnished by the commissioner. Any electronic  
492 address maintained by the department for the purpose of providing electronic notice of expiration  
493 shall be considered a firearms record and shall not be disclosed except as provided in section 10  
494 of chapter 66.

495 (9A) Except as provided in clause (9B), the fee for an application for a firearm  
496 identification card shall be \$100, which shall be payable to the licensing authority and shall not  
497 be prorated or refunded in the case of revocation or denial. The licensing authority shall retain  
498 \$25 of the fee; \$50 of the fee shall be deposited in the General Fund; and \$25 of the fee shall be  
499 deposited in the Firearms Fingerprint Identity Verification Trust Fund. Notwithstanding any  
500 general or special law to the contrary, licensing authorities shall deposit quarterly that portion of  
501 the firearm identification card application fee which is to be deposited into the General Fund, not  
502 later than January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1 of each year.

503 (9B) The application fee for a firearm identification card issued for the sole  
504 purpose of purchasing or possessing chemical mace, pepper spray or other similarly propelled  
505 liquid, gas or powder designed to temporarily incapacitate shall be \$25, which shall be payable  
506 to the licensing authority and shall not be prorated or refunded in the case of revocation or



507 denial. The licensing authority shall retain 50 per cent of the fee and the remaining portion shall  
508 be deposited in the General Fund. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary,  
509 licensing authorities shall deposit quarterly that portion of the firearm identification card  
510 application fee which is to be deposited into the General Fund, not later than January 1, April 1,  
511 July 1 and October 1 of each year. There shall be no application fee for the renewal of a firearm  
512 identification card issued under this clause.

513 A firearm identification card issued under this clause shall display, in clear and  
514 conspicuous language, that the card shall be valid only for the purpose of purchasing or  
515 possessing chemical mace, pepper spray or other similarly propelled liquid, gas or powder  
516 designed to temporarily incapacitate.

517 (9C) Except as provided in clause (9B), the fee for an application for a firearm  
518 identification card for any person under the age of 18 shall be \$25, which shall be payable to the  
519 licensing authority and shall not be prorated or refunded in the case of revocation or denial. The  
520 licensing authority shall retain 50 per cent of the fee and the remaining portion shall be deposited  
521 into the General Fund. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, licensing  
522 authorities shall deposit quarterly that portion of the firearm identification card application fee  
523 which is to be deposited into the General Fund, not later than January 1, April 1, July 1 and  
524 October 1 of each year.

525 (10) Any person over the age of 70 shall be exempt from the requirement of  
526 paying a renewal fee for a firearm identification card.

527 (11) A cardholder shall notify, in writing, the licensing authority that issued such  
528 card, the chief of police into whose jurisdiction such cardholder moves and the executive director  
529 of the criminal history systems board of any change of address. Such notification shall be made  
530 by certified mail within 30 days of its occurrence. Failure to so notify shall be cause for  
531 revocation or suspension of such card.

532 (12) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10 of chapter 269, any person in  
533 possession of a non-large capacity rifle or shotgun whose firearm identification card issued under  
534 this section is invalid for the sole reason that it has expired, meaning after 90 days beyond the  
535 stated expiration date on the card, but who shall not be disqualified from renewal upon  
536 application therefor under this section, shall be subject to a civil fine of not less than \$500 nor  
537 more than \$5,000 and the provisions of said section 10 of said chapter 269 shall not apply;  
538 provided, however, that the exemption from the provisions of said section 10 of said chapter 269  
539 provided herein shall not apply if: (i) such firearm identification card has been revoked or  
540 suspended, unless such revocation or suspension was caused by failure to give notice of a change  
541 of address as required under this section; (ii) revocation or suspension of such firearm  
542 identification card is pending, unless such revocation or suspension was caused by failure to give  
543 notice of a change of address as required under this section; or (iii) an application for renewal of

544 such firearm identification card has been denied. Any law enforcement officer who discovers a  
545 person to be in possession of a rifle or shotgun after such person's firearm identification card has  
546 expired, meaning after 90 days beyond the stated expiration date on the card, or has been  
547 revoked or suspended solely for failure to give notice of a change of address shall confiscate any  
548 rifle or shotgun and such expired or suspended card then in possession, and such officer shall  
549 forward such card to the licensing authority by whom it was issued as soon as practicable. Any  
550 confiscated weapon shall be returned to the owner upon the renewal or reinstatement of such  
551 expired or suspended card within one year of such confiscation or such weapon may be  
552 otherwise disposed of in accordance with the provisions of section 129D. Pending the issuance  
553 or denial of a renewed firearm identification card, a receipt for the fee paid, after five days  
554 following issuance, shall serve as a valid substitute and any rifle or shotgun so confiscated shall  
555 be returned, unless the applicant is disqualified. The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply  
556 if such person has a valid license to carry firearms issued under section 131 or 131F.

557 (13) Upon issuance of a firearm identification card under this section, the  
558 licensing authority shall forward a copy of such approved application and card to the executive  
559 director of the criminal history systems board, who shall inform the licensing authority forthwith  
560 of the existence of any disqualifying condition discovered or occurring subsequent to the  
561 issuance of a firearm identification card under this section.

562 (14) Nothing in this section shall authorize the purchase, possession or transfer of any  
563 weapon, ammunition or feeding device that is, or in such manner that is, prohibited by state or  
564 federal law.

565 (15) The secretary of the executive office of public safety, or his designee, may  
566 promulgate regulations to carry out the purposes of this section.

567 (16) An applicant for a license shall sign a waiver at the time of application allowing the  
568 licensing authority access to any records that have a bearing on the mental health of the  
569 applicant. The permit application form and the waiver form shall be prescribed by the Secretary  
570 of Public Safety and shall be uniform throughout the Commonwealth. Said form shall require an  
571 applicant to disclose all providers of mental health treatment or services for 20 years prior to the  
572 date of application.

573 (17) A health care provider or public health authority shall disclose health information,  
574 including protected health care information, relating to any individual's mental health history, to  
575 the licensing authority in a timely way in response to a request for the information from the  
576 authority; provided that:

577 (a) the information shall be used only for the purpose of evaluating the individual's  
578 suitability for a license under this section;

579 (b) the individual has executed a waiver permitting release of the health information for  
580 the purpose; And,

581 (c) said health information shall be destroyed by the licensing authority within 30 days  
582 following the issuing of a license or the outcome of any appeal.

583 (18) In making the determination if an applicant is a suitable person to be issued a  
584 firearms identification card pursuant to this section, the licensing authority shall consider the  
585 applicant's stated purpose and intended use of said license, the applicant's experience, training  
586 and familiarity with firearms, rifles and shotguns, the applicant's general mental and physical  
587 health, the applicant's age and maturity, and any such factors as the licensing authority may  
588 deem relevant.

589 SECTION 3. Section 123 of chapter 140 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby  
590 amended by striking in clause 16 the words:- "that was not otherwise lawfully possessed on  
591 September 13, 1994", and inserting in place thereof the following:— "unless such sale, lease,  
592 rent, transfer or delivery is made to a law enforcement agency."

593 SECTION 4. Chapter 140 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the  
594 following section:-

595 Section 207. (a) Whoever possess, carries, or owns a firearm, rifle or shotgun without a  
596 liability policy or bond or deposit required by the provisions of this chapter which has not been  
597 provided and maintained in accordance therewith shall be punished by a fine of not less than five  
598 hundred nor more than five thousand dollars or by imprisonment for not more than one year in a  
599 house of correction, or both such fine and imprisonment. This section shall not apply to a person  
600 who possesses a firearm, rifle, or shotgun on a temporary basis while on the premises of a  
601 licensed gun club.

602 (b) The commissioner of insurance shall promulgate regulations set forth for the  
603 minimum terms of liability insurance policies which shall satisfy the requirements of this section.

604 SECTION 5:- Section 131P of the Chapter 140 of the General Laws is hereby repealed  
605 and replaced with the following:-

606 Section 131P. (a) Any person making application for the issuance of a firearms  
607 identification card under section 129B, a Class A or Class B license to carry firearms under  
608 section 131 or 131F or a permit to purchase under section 131A who was not licensed under the  
609 provisions of this chapter on June 1, 1998 shall, in addition to the requirements set forth in said  
610 section 129B, 131, 131A or 131F, submit to the licensing authority a basic firearms safety  
611 certificate; and provided further, that an applicant for a firearms identification card for the sole  
612 purpose of purchasing or possessing chemical mace, pepper spray or other similarly propelled  
613 liquid, gas or powder designed to temporarily incapacitate shall not be required to complete a

614 basic firearms safety course as a prerequisite for receiving such card. Persons lawfully  
615 possessing a firearm identification card or license to carry firearms on June 1, 1998 shall be  
616 exempt from the provisions of this section upon expiration of such card or license and when  
617 applying for licensure as required under this chapter. No application for the issuance of a firearm  
618 identification card or license to carry shall be accepted or processed by the licensing authority  
619 without such certificate attached thereto; provided, however, that the provisions of this section  
620 shall not apply to (i) any member of the military or other service of any state or of the United  
621 States and any such member having received an honorable discharge from such service; (ii) any  
622 duly authorized law enforcement officer; and (iii) any officer, agent or employee of the  
623 commonwealth or any state of the United States.; provided, however, that any such person  
624 described in clauses (i) to (iii), inclusive, is authorized by a competent authority to carry or  
625 possess the weapon so carried or possessed and is acting within the scope of his duties.

626 (b) The colonel of state police shall promulgate rules and regulations governing the  
627 issuance and form of basic firearms safety certificates required by this section. Said colonel shall  
628 certify certain persons as firearms safety instructors and shall certify safety course curriculum.  
629 Said curriculum must include a minimum of at least five hours of live discharge of firearms,  
630 rifles and shotguns at a licensed gun club, including the discharge of at least 50 rounds of  
631 ammunition. Such certification shall be for a period of ten years, unless sooner revoked by  
632 reason of unsuitability, in the discretion of said colonel. The department of state police may  
633 impose a fee of \$50 for initial issuance of such certification to offset the cost of certifying  
634 instructors. The fee for certification renewal shall be \$10. Firearms safety instructors shall be any  
635 person certified by a nationally recognized organization that fosters safety in firearms, or any  
636 other person in the discretion of said colonel, to be competent to give instruction in a basic  
637 firearms safety course. Applicants for certification as instructors under the provisions of this  
638 section shall not be exempt from the requirements of this chapter or any other law or regulation  
639 of the commonwealth or the United States. Upon application to the colonel of state police, said  
640 colonel may, in his discretion, certify as a firearms safety instructor any person who operates a  
641 firearms safety course or program which provides in its curriculum: (a) the safe use, handling  
642 and storage of firearms; (b) methods for securing and childproofing firearms; (c) the applicable  
643 laws relating to the possession, transportation and storage of firearms; and (d) knowledge of  
644 operation, potential dangers and basic competency in the ownership and usage of firearms.

645 (c) Any firearms safety instructor certified under the provisions of this section may, in his  
646 discretion, issue a basic firearms safety certificate to any person who successfully completes the  
647 requirements of a basic firearms safety course approved by the colonel. No firearms safety  
648 instructor shall issue or cause to be issued any basic firearms safety certificate to any person who  
649 fails to meet minimum requirements of the prescribed course of study including, but not limited  
650 to, demonstrated competency in the use of firearms. Instructors certified under the provisions of  
651 this section shall forward to the department of state police the names of those persons who have  
652 received basic firearms safety certificates. Local licensing authorities, as defined in section 121,

653 shall, upon receipt of an application for a firearm identification card or a Class A or Class B  
654 license to carry firearms, make inquiry to the department of state police to confirm the issuance  
655 to the applicant of a basic firearms safety certificate.

656 (d) Any person applying for licensure under the provisions of this chapter who knowingly  
657 files or submits a basic firearms safety certificate to a licensing authority which contains false  
658 information shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$5,000 or by  
659 imprisonment for not more than two years in a house of correction, or by both such fine and  
660 imprisonment.

661 (e) Any firearms safety instructor who knowingly issues a basic firearms safety certificate  
662 to a person who has not successfully completed a firearms safety course approved by the colonel  
663 shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$5,000 nor more than \$10,000 or by imprisonment for  
664 not more than two years in a house of correction, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

665 SECTION 6. Chapter 64H of the General Laws shall be amended by adding the  
666 following new section:-

667 Section 34. An excise is hereby imposed upon sales at retail in the commonwealth, by  
668 any vendor, of ammunition, rifles, shotguns, firearms or parts thereof at the rate of 25 percent of  
669 the gross receipts of the vendor from all such sales of such property. The excise shall be paid by  
670 the vendor to the commissioner at the time provided for filing the return required by section  
671 sixteen of chapter sixty-two C. Said receipts shall be deposited in a trust account called "Firearm  
672 Sales Tax Trust Fund" which shall be set up on the books of the Commonwealth for the purposes  
673 of firearms licensing, mental health services and victim's services, subject to appropriation.

674 SECTION 7. Section 167A of chapter 6 of the General Laws, as inserted by section 8 of  
675 chapter 256 of the acts of 2010, is hereby amended by inserting the following paragraph:-

676 (h) Notwithstanding any general or special law or court order, including an order of  
677 impoundment, to the contrary, the department shall transmit to the Attorney General of the  
678 United States any information in its control required or permitted under federal law to be  
679 included in the National Instant Background Check System or any successor system maintained  
680 for the purpose of conducting background checks for firearms sales or licensing. No more  
681 information than is necessary for the purposes stated above shall be transmitted, and such  
682 information shall not be considered a public record under section 7 of chapter 4.

683 SECTION 8. Section 35 of chapter 123 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2008  
684 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word "days.", in line 38, the following  
685 words:- The court in its order shall specify whether such commitment is based upon a finding  
686 that said person is an alcoholic, a substance abuser, or both, and this information shall be entered  
687 in the record to permit transmission to the department of criminal justice information services for  
688 the purposes and under the conditions set forth in the second paragraph of section 36A.

689 SECTION 9. Section 36A of chapter 123, as so appearing, is hereby amended by  
690 inserting after the first paragraph the following paragraph:-

691 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the administrative office of the trial court shall transmit  
692 information contained in court records maintained under this section to the department of  
693 criminal justice information services for the purposes of (a) providing licensing authorities as  
694 defined under section 121 of chapter 140 with information required or permitted to be considered  
695 under state or federal law for the purpose of conducting background checks for firearms sales or  
696 licensing and (b) providing the Attorney General of the United States with information required  
697 or permitted under federal law to be included in the National Instant Criminal Background Check  
698 System or any successor system maintained for the purpose of conducting background checks for  
699 firearms sales or licensing. The commissioner of the department of criminal justice information  
700 services shall determine which court records shall be transmitted for said purposes, provided that  
701 the commissioner shall require no more information than is necessary to be transmitted, and such  
702 information shall not be considered a public record under section 7 of chapter 4.

703 SECTION 10. Section 129B of chapter 140 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is  
704 hereby amended by striking out, in line 85, the words “department of mental health,”.

705 SECTION 11. Section 130B of chapter 140 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is  
706 hereby amended by inserting the following subsection:-

707 (h) There shall be, within the firearm licensing review board, a relief from disabilities  
708 subcommittee comprised of 3 members, designated from time to time, as follows: 1 member of  
709 the firearm licensing review board designated by the chair, 1 person designated by the  
710 commissioner of the department of mental health, and 1 person designated by the secretary of  
711 public safety and security, who shall chair the subcommittee.

712 An applicant who has been formally adjudicated as mentally defective in the  
713 commonwealth or committed involuntarily to a mental institution in the commonwealth, within  
714 the meaning of 18 U.S.C. § 922, may petition the subcommittee for relief from the firearms  
715 prohibitions or disabilities imposed by federal law as the result of such adjudication or  
716 commitment.

717 The applicant shall have the opportunity to submit evidence to the subcommittee and to  
718 be heard by the subcommittee in support of the application. All hearings shall be conducted in  
719 an informal manner, but otherwise according to the rules of evidence, and all witnesses shall be  
720 sworn by the subcommittee chair. If requested by the petitioner and payment for stenographic  
721 services, as determined by the subcommittee, accompanies such request, the subcommittee shall  
722 cause a verbatim transcript of the hearing to be made. The subcommittee’s decisions and  
723 findings of facts shall be communicated in writing to the petitioner and to the licensing authority  
724 to which the petitioner has applied or intends to apply within 60 days of rendering a decision.  
725 The subcommittee shall maintain the records of its proceedings and of all materials submitted or

726 considered by the subcommittee for the purposes of judicial review for a minimum of 3 years  
727 following the date of its decision. The records of the subcommittee shall not be considered a  
728 public record under section 7 of chapter 4.

729 If the majority of the subcommittee determines that the applicant has shown by clear and  
730 convincing evidence that the applicant will not be likely to act in a manner dangerous to public  
731 safety and that granting relief will not be contrary to the public interest, the subcommittee may  
732 grant relief and direct the department of criminal justice information services to notify the  
733 Attorney General of the United States and to remove the record of the prohibition or disability  
734 from any database that the department of criminal justice information services, the  
735 commonwealth or the federal government maintains and makes available to the National Instant  
736 Criminal Background Check System or any successor system maintained for the purpose of  
737 conducting background checks for firearms sales or licensing.

738 In determining whether to grant relief, the subcommittee shall consider the circumstances  
739 regarding the firearms disabilities imposed; the applicant's record, including the applicant's  
740 mental health and criminal history records; and the applicant's reputation developed, at a  
741 minimum, through character witness statements, testimony, or other character evidence. The  
742 applicant shall have the burden to produce evidence concerning these matters and the burden of  
743 persuading the subcommittee to grant relief. The subcommittee may promulgate regulations  
744 governing the application process and the conduct of its hearings.

745 The decision of the subcommittee shall be a final decision. An applicant who is denied  
746 relief by the subcommittee may, within 30 days of the receipt of the denial, seek review of the  
747 subcommittee's decision by filing a complaint in the district court. The district court's review of  
748 the subcommittee's decision shall be de novo, and the court may in its discretion receive  
749 additional evidence necessary to conduct an adequate review.

750 The firearm licensing review board shall establish a fee to file an application for relief  
751 under this section, which fees shall be retained by the department of criminal justice information  
752 services.

753 SECTION 12. Section 131 of chapter 140 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is  
754 hereby amended by striking out, in lines 155-157, the words "The colonel shall inquire of the  
755 commissioner of the department of mental health relative to whether the applicant is disqualified  
756 from being so licensed."

757 SECTION 13. Chapter 265 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after  
758 section 13M the following section:-

759 Section 13N. Upon entry of a conviction for any misdemeanor offense that has as an  
760 element the use or attempted use of physical force, or the threatened use of a deadly weapon, the  
761 court shall determine whether the victim or intended victim was a family or household member

762 of the defendant, as defined in section 1 of chapter 209A. If the victim or intended victim was a  
763 family or household member of the defendant, the court shall enter the offense, the chapter,  
764 section and subsection, if any, of the offense, and the relationship of the defendant to the victim  
765 upon the record, and this entry shall be forwarded to the department of criminal justice  
766 information services for inclusion in the criminal justice information system and for the purpose  
767 of providing the Attorney General of the United States with information required or permitted  
768 under federal law to be included in the National Instant Criminal Background Check System or  
769 any successor system maintained for the purpose of conducting background checks for firearms  
770 sales or licensing.

771 SECTION 14. Notwithstanding any general or special law or court order, including an  
772 order of impoundment, to the contrary, the administrative office of the trial court shall transmit  
773 any order of the probate court appointing a guardian or conservator for an incapacitated person  
774 under part 3 or part 4 of article V of the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code on the ground that  
775 the person lacks the mental capacity to contract or manage his or her own affairs, and any  
776 subsequent order terminating or rescinding such appointment, to the department of criminal  
777 justice information services for the purpose of providing the Attorney General of the United  
778 States with information required or permitted under federal law to be included in the National  
779 Instant Criminal Background Check System or any successor system maintained for the purpose  
780 of conducting background checks for firearms sales or licensing. The department of criminal  
781 justice information services shall transmit no more information than is necessary for the purpose  
782 stated above, and such information shall not be considered a public record under section 7 of  
783 chapter 4.

784 SECTION 15. Notwithstanding section 36 of chapter 123 of the General Laws, and for  
785 the sole purposes of providing licensing authorities as defined under section 121 of chapter 140  
786 of the General Laws with information required or permitted to be considered under state law for  
787 the purpose of conducting background checks for firearms sales or licensing and of providing the  
788 Attorney General of the United States with information required or permitted under federal law  
789 to be included in the National Instant Criminal Background Check System or any successor  
790 system maintained for the purpose of conducting background checks for firearms sales or  
791 licensing:

792 (a) No later than 6 months from the effective date of this act, the department of mental  
793 health shall transmit to the department of criminal justice information services sufficient  
794 information to identify all persons known to the department of mental health who have been  
795 confined to any hospital or institution for mental illness within 20 years of the effective date or  
796 who are so confined at the time of transmission; and

797 (b) Thereafter, the department of mental health shall transmit such information to the  
798 department of criminal justice information services on a quarterly basis concerning individuals  
799 who have been so confined in the 3-month period preceding the date of each transmission.



800           Such information shall not be considered a public record under section 7 of chapter 4.

801           SECTION 16. Sections 4 and 6 shall take effect 6 months after the effective date of this  
802 act.

803           SECTION 17. Section 123 of chapter 140 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is  
804 hereby amended by inserting after the first sentence in the third paragraph the following  
805 sentence:- No person licensed under section 122 shall sell, rent or lease, to another person, other  
806 than to an exempt person under subsection (c) of section 131E, more than 1 rifle, shotgun,  
807 firearm, machine gun, large capacity weapon or large capacity feeding device in any 30-day  
808 period.

809

810           SECTION 18. Section 128A of chapter 140 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is  
811 hereby amended by adding the following 2 sentences:- Any sale or transfer conducted under this  
812 section shall comply with section 131E and shall take place at the location of a dealer licensed  
813 under section 122, who shall transmit the information required by this section for the purchases  
814 and sales by utilizing the electronic verification link established by the executive director of the  
815 criminal history systems board. A licensed dealer may charge the seller a fee not to exceed \$25  
816 for each sale or transfer electronically submitted on behalf of the seller to the criminal history  
817 systems board.

818           SECTION 19. Section 129C of chapter 140, as so appearing, is hereby amended by  
819 inserting after the word “purpose”, in line 84, the following words:- , provided, however, that  
820 nothing in this subsection shall allow for the holding, handling, or firing of a machine gun by any  
821 person other than a person licensed to possess a machine gun under section 131(o) or police  
822 personnel receiving instruction from a firearm instructor certified by the municipal police  
823 training committee or the colonel of the state police

824

825           SECTION 20. Section 129D of chapter 140 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is  
826 hereby amended by inserting after the word “be”, in line 43, the following words:- destroyed by  
827 the colonel of the state police or the licensing authority or

828

829           SECTION 21. Section 130 of chapter 140 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is  
830 hereby amended by inserting after the word “shotgun”, in line 8, the following words:- or  
831 machine gun

832

833 SECTION 22. Section 130 is hereby further amended by inserting after the word  
834 “years”, in line 28, the following words:- ; and provided further, that nothing in this section shall  
835 allow for the holding, handling, or firing of a machine gun by any person other than a person  
836 licensed to possess a machine gun under section 131(o) or police personnel receiving instruction  
837 from a firearm instructor certified by the municipal police training committee or the colonel of  
838 the state police

839 SECTION 23. Section 131E of chapter 140 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is  
840 hereby amended by inserting after subsection (b) the following subsection:-

841 (c) No person, other than an exempt person as defined in this subsection shall purchase,  
842 rent or lease more than 1 rifle, shotgun, firearm, machine gun, large capacity weapon or large  
843 capacity feeding device in any 30-day period.

844 This subsection shall not apply to the following persons and uses:

- 845 - any law enforcement agency or authority;
- 846 - any branch of the United States military, including the National Guard;
- 847 - any persons in any branch of the United States military, police officers or other  
848 peace officers who are acquiring firearms for the purposes of performing their official duties or  
849 when duly authorized by their employer to purchase them;
- 850 - any licensed watch, guard or patrol agency or their licensed employees for the  
851 purposes of performing duties in the course of employment under sections 22 and 25 of chapter  
852 147;
- 853 - a federal, state or local historical society, museum or institutional collector open to  
854 the public;
- 855 - any person who purchases, rents or leases a rifle, shotgun, firearm, machine gun,  
856 large capacity weapon or large capacity feeding device and then exchanges it for another rifle,  
857 shotgun, firearm, machine gun, large capacity weapon or large capacity feeding device provided  
858 by a licensed dealer within a 30-day period; and
- 859 - a firearms surrender program authorized by and in compliance with section 131O.

860 Upon receipt of a record of a sale, rental or lease of a rifle, shotgun, firearm, machine  
861 gun, large capacity weapon or large capacity feeding device from a licensee as required under  
862 section 123 or a person without a license under section 128A, the executive director of the  
863 criminal history systems board, or the executive director’s agent, shall determine whether a  
864 person has purchased, rented or leased more than 1 rifle, shotgun, firearm, machine gun, large  
865 capacity weapon or large capacity feeding device in any 30-day period in violation of this  
866 subsection. If a person has purchased, rented or leased in violation of this subsection, the

867 executive director of the criminal history systems board, or the executive director's agent, shall  
868 forward any records demonstrating the relevant acquisition history to the colonel of the state  
869 police or the colonel's agent, the prosecutor, and the chief of police in the city or town in which  
870 the person resides or where the second rifle, shotgun, firearm, machine gun, large capacity  
871 weapon or large capacity feeding device was obtained in violation of this subsection.

872 A non-exempt person who purchases, rents or leases more than 1 rifle, shotgun, firearm,  
873 machine gun, large capacity weapon or large capacity feeding device in any 30-day period shall  
874 be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000, or by imprisonment for not more than 2 ½ years,  
875 or both, for a first offense; and for any subsequent offense shall be punished by a fine of not less  
876 than \$1,000 and not more than \$5,000, or by imprisonment for not more than 2 ½ years in a  
877 house of correction or not more than 5 years in the state prison, or by both such fine and  
878 imprisonment.

879 Any licensed dealer under section 122 or any other individual who sells, rents or leases a  
880 rifle, shotgun, firearm, machine gun, large capacity weapon or large capacity feeding device to a  
881 non-exempt person under this section, having sold, rented or leased a rifle, shotgun, firearm,  
882 machine gun, large capacity weapon or large capacity feeding device to the person within the  
883 previous 30 days or with actual knowledge that the person has purchased, rented or leased a rifle,  
884 shotgun, firearm, machine gun, large capacity weapon or large capacity feeding device within the  
885 previous 30 days, shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$5,000, or by imprisonment of not  
886 more than 2 ½ years, or both, for a first offense; and for any subsequent offense shall be  
887 punished by a fine of not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$10,000, or by imprisonment for  
888 not more than 2 ½ years in a house of correction or not more than 5 years in the state prison, or  
889 by both such fine and imprisonment.

890 SECTION 24. Section one hundred and twenty one of chapter one hundred and forty is  
891 hereby amended by deleting the definition of "ammunition" and replacing it with the following  
892 definition: -

893

894 "Ammunition" shall mean a cartridge consisting of a cartridge case or hull, propellant  
895 powder, primer, and bullet, shot or pellet as a single complete projectile load for any firearm,  
896 rifle, shotgun or machine gun. The term ammunition shall also mean any projectile powder for  
897 use in any firearm, rifle, shotgun or machine gun.

898 SECTION 25. Section 131 M of chapter one hundred and forty is hereby amended by  
899 deleting it in its entirety and replacing it with the following: -

900 No person shall sell, offer for sale, transfer or possess an assault weapon or a large  
901 capacity feeding device that was not otherwise lawfully possessed on September 13, 1994.  
902 Whoever not being licensed under the provisions of section 122 violates the provisions of this

903 section shall be punished, for a first offense, by a fine of not less than \$1,000 nor more than  
904 \$10,000 or by imprisonment for not less than one year nor more than ten years, or by both such  
905 fine and imprisonment, and for a second offense, by a fine of not less than \$5,000 nor more than  
906 \$15,000 or by imprisonment for not less than five years nor more than 15 years, or by both such  
907 fine and imprisonment.

908 The provisions of this section shall not apply to the possession of an assault weapon or  
909 large capacity feeding device by a law enforcement officer, or a retired law enforcement officer  
910 qualified under the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act.

911 SECTION 26. Section (m) of Chapter 269 is hereby repealed and replaced with the  
912 following:-

913 (m) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a) or (h), any person not exempted by  
914 statute who knowingly has in his possession, or knowingly has under his control in a vehicle, a  
915 large capacity weapon or large capacity feeding device except as permitted or otherwise  
916 provided under this section or chapter 140, shall be punished by imprisonment in a state prison  
917 for not less than five years nor more than twenty years. The sentence imposed upon such person  
918 shall not be reduced to less than five years, nor suspended, nor shall any person convicted under  
919 this subsection be eligible for probation, parole, furlough, work release or receive any deduction  
920 from his sentence for good conduct until he shall have served such minimum term of such  
921 sentence; provided, however, that the commissioner of correction may, on the recommendation  
922 of the warden, superintendent or other person in charge of a correctional institution or the  
923 administrator of a county correctional institution, grant to such offender a temporary release in  
924 the custody of an officer of such institution for the following purposes only: (i) to attend the  
925 funeral of a spouse or next of kin; (ii) to visit a critically ill close relative or spouse; or (iii) to  
926 obtain emergency medical services unavailable at such institution. Prosecutions commenced  
927 under this subsection shall neither be continued without a finding nor placed on file. The  
928 provisions of section 87 of chapter 276 relative to the power of the court to place certain  
929 offenders on probation shall not apply to any person 17 years of age or over charged with a  
930 violation of this section.

931 The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to the possession of a large capacity  
932 weapon or large capacity feeding device by (i) any officer, agent or employee of the  
933 commonwealth or any other state or the United States, including any federal, state or local law  
934 enforcement personnel; (ii) any member of the military or other service of any state or the United  
935 States; (iii) any duly authorized law enforcement officer, agent or employee of any municipality  
936 of the commonwealth; (iv) any federal, state or local historical society, museum or institutional  
937 collection open to the public; provided, however, that any such person described in clauses (i) to  
938 (iii), inclusive, is authorized by a competent authority to acquire, possess or carry a large  
939 capacity semiautomatic weapon and is acting within the scope of his duties; (v) any gunsmith

940 duly licensed under the applicable federal law; or (vi) or a retired law enforcement officer  
941 qualified under the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act.

942 SECTION 27. Section 10(j) of chapter two hundred and sixty-nine is hereby amended by  
943 deleting it in its entirety and replacing it with the following: -

944 (j) Whoever, not being a law enforcement officer, and notwithstanding any license  
945 obtained by him under the provisions of chapter 140, knowingly has in his possession; or  
946 knowingly has under his control in a vehicle; a firearm, rifle, shotgun, machine gun, assault  
947 weapon or ammunition as defined in section 121 of chapter 140, in any building or on the  
948 grounds of any elementary or secondary school, college or university without the written  
949 authorization of the board or officer in charge of such elementary or secondary school, college or  
950 university shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars or by imprisonment  
951 for not more than two years or by both such fine and imprisonment. A police officer or any  
952 person authorized to serve criminal process may arrest a person whom the officer has probable  
953 cause to believe has violated the provisions of this paragraph.

954 Whoever, not being a law enforcement officer, knowingly has in his possession; or  
955 knowingly has under his control in a vehicle; a dangerous weapon, or an air gun, so-called BB  
956 gun, paintball gun, air rifle or air pistol or other smoothbore arm capable of discharging a shot or  
957 pellet by whatever means in any building or on the grounds of any elementary or secondary  
958 school, college or university without the written authorization of the board or officer in charge of  
959 such elementary or secondary school, college or university shall be punished by a fine of not  
960 more than five hundred dollars or by imprisonment for not more than one year. A police officer  
961 or any person authorized to serve criminal process may arrest a person whom the officer has  
962 probable cause to believe has violated the provisions of this paragraph.

963 Whoever knowingly has in his possession; or knowingly has under his control in a  
964 vehicle an explosive or incendiary device in any building or on the grounds of any elementary or  
965 secondary school, college or university shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000 or  
966 by imprisonment in the state prison for not more than 10 years or by both such fine and  
967 imprisonment.

968 Any officer in charge of an elementary or secondary school, college or university or any  
969 faculty member or administrative officer of an elementary or secondary school, college or  
970 university failing to report violations of this sub section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and  
971 punished by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars.

972 SECTION 28. Section 26 of chapter 218 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby  
973 amended by inserting after the words "fifteen A", in line 18, the following words:- , 15D(a),  
974 15E(a)

975 SECTION 29. Section 26 of chapter 218 is hereby further amended by inserting after the  
976 words “sixty-six,” in line 21, the following words:- section 10(p) of chapter 269

977 SECTION 30. Chapter 265 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after  
978 section 13M the following section:-

979 Section 13N. Upon entry of a conviction for any misdemeanor offense that has as an  
980 element the use or attempted use of physical force, or the threatened use of a deadly weapon, the  
981 court shall determine whether the victim or intended victim was a family or household member  
982 of the defendant, as defined in section 1 of chapter 209A. If the victim or intended victim was a  
983 family or household member of the defendant, the court shall enter the offense, the chapter,  
984 section and subsection, if any, of the offense, and the relationship of the defendant to the victim  
985 upon the record, and this entry shall be forwarded to the department of criminal justice  
986 information services for inclusion in the criminal justice information system and for the purpose  
987 of providing the Attorney General of the United States with information required or permitted  
988 under federal law to be included in the National Instant Criminal Background Check System or  
989 any successor system maintained for the purpose of conducting background checks for firearms  
990 sales or licensing.

991 SECTION 31. Chapter 265 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by  
992 inserting after section 15C the following sections:-

993 Section 15D. (a) Whoever commits an assault and battery upon another by means of a  
994 firearm, large capacity weapon, rifle, shotgun, sawed-off shotgun, machine gun or assault  
995 weapon as defined in section 121 of chapter 140 shall be punished by imprisonment in the state  
996 prison for not more than 15 years or by imprisonment in the house of correction for not more  
997 than 2½ years, or by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

998 (b) Any person convicted of violating subsection (a) after 1 or more prior convictions  
999 under subsection (a), section 15E, or a law of another jurisdiction that necessarily includes the  
1000 elements of subsection (a) or section 15E shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison  
1001 for not less than 3 years nor more than 20 years. The sentence imposed shall not be reduced to  
1002 less than a term of 3 years imprisonment, nor suspended, nor shall a person sentenced under this  
1003 subsection be eligible for probation, parole, work release or furlough, or receive any deduction  
1004 from the sentence for good conduct, until having served 3 years of the sentence; provided,  
1005 however, that the commissioner of correction may, on the recommendation of the warden,  
1006 superintendent, or other person in charge of a correctional institution, grant to an offender  
1007 committed under this subsection a temporary release in the custody of an officer of such  
1008 institution for the following purposes only: to attend the funeral of a relative; to visit a critically  
1009 ill relative; or to obtain emergency medical or psychiatric service unavailable at said institution.

1010 (c) Prosecutions commenced under this section shall not be suspended, continued without  
1011 a finding or placed on file. A sentence imposed under this section shall begin from and after the

1012 expiration of any sentence imposed under section 10(a), 10(c), 10(d), 10(h), 10(m) or 10(n) of  
1013 chapter 269 arising out of the same incident.

1014 Section 15E. (a) Whoever commits an assault upon another by means of a firearm, large  
1015 capacity weapon, rifle, shotgun, sawed-off shotgun, machine gun or assault weapon as defined in  
1016 section 121 of chapter 140 shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for not more  
1017 than 10 years or by imprisonment in the house of correction for not more than 2½ years, or by a  
1018 fine of not more than \$5,000, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

1019 (b) Any person convicted of violating subsection (a) after 1 or more prior convictions  
1020 under subsection (a), section 15D, or a law of another jurisdiction that necessarily includes the  
1021 elements of subsection (a) or section 15D shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison  
1022 for not less than 2 years nor more than 15 years. The sentence imposed shall not be reduced to  
1023 less than a term of 2 years imprisonment, nor suspended, nor shall a person sentenced under this  
1024 subsection be eligible for probation, parole, work release or furlough, or receive any deduction  
1025 from the sentence for good conduct, until having served 2 years of the sentence; provided,  
1026 however, that the commissioner of correction may, on the recommendation of the warden,  
1027 superintendent, or other person in charge of a correctional institution, grant to an offender  
1028 committed under this subsection a temporary release in the custody of an officer of such  
1029 institution for the following purposes only: to attend the funeral of a relative; to visit a critically  
1030 ill relative; or to obtain emergency medical or psychiatric service unavailable at said institution.

1031 (c) Prosecutions commenced under this section shall not be suspended, continued without  
1032 a finding or placed on file. A sentence imposed under this section shall begin from and after the  
1033 expiration of any sentence imposed under section 10(a), 10(c), 10(d), 10(h), 10(m) or 10(n) of  
1034 chapter 269 arising out of the same incident.

1035 SECTION 32. Chapter 265 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by  
1036 inserting after section 18C the following section:-

1037 Section 18D. Whoever, while in the commission or attempted commission of a  
1038 misdemeanor that has as an element the use, attempted use, or threatened use of physical force  
1039 against the person of another, has in his possession or under his control a firearm, rifle, or  
1040 shotgun, shall, in addition to the penalty for such offense, be punished by imprisonment in the  
1041 state prison for not more than 10 years, or in the house of correction for not more than 2 ½ years,  
1042 or by a fine of not more than \$5,000, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

1043 SECTION 33. Section 10 of chapter 269 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby  
1044 amended by striking out, in lines 103-107, the words “seven years; for a third such offense, by  
1045 imprisonment in the state prison for not less than seven years nor more than ten years; and for a  
1046 fourth such offense, by imprisonment in the state prison for not less than ten years nor more than  
1047 fifteen years”, and inserting in place thereof the following words:- 10 years; for a third such  
1048 offense, by imprisonment in the state prison for not less than 10 years nor more than 15 years;

1049 and for a fourth such offense, by imprisonment in the state prison for not less than 15 years nor  
1050 more than 20 years.