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DELAWARE STATE SENATE  
151st GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE BILL NO. 3

AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 11 AND TITLE 24 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO DEADLY WEAPONS.

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

1 Section 1. Amend Subpart E, Subchapter VII, Chapter 5, Title 11 of the Delaware Code by making deletions as  
2 shown by strike through and insertions as shown by underline as follows:

3 § 1448D. Handgun qualified purchaser card required to purchase handguns.

4 (a) For purposes of this section and § 1448E of this title:

5 (1) "Department" means the Department of Safety and Homeland Security.

6 (2) "Handgun" means a pistol, revolver, or other firearm designed to be readily capable of being fired when  
7 held in 1 hand.

8 (3) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Department of Safety and Homeland Security or the Secretary's  
9 designee.

10 (4) "Transferor" means a licensed dealer, licensed manufacturer, or licensed importer, or employee thereof, or  
11 any other person who sells, transfers, or delivers a firearm.

12 (b) The Secretary of the Department shall, upon application, issue to a person qualified under subsection (e) of this  
13 section a handgun qualified purchaser card.

14 (c)(1) A person's application for a handgun qualified purchaser card must be in the form prescribed by the  
15 Secretary of the Department and include all of the following information about the person:

16 a. Name.

17 b. Residence.

18 c. Place of business.

19 d. Age.

20 e. Date of birth.

21 f. Sex.

22                   g. Physical description, including distinguishing physical characteristics, if any.

23                   (2) An application must include a sworn, written affirmation that the person is not prohibited from possessing

24 a firearm under § 1448 of this title or any other provision of state or federal law.

25                   (d) Application blanks must be made available by the Department and licensed dealers.

26                   (e) Except as otherwise provided under this chapter, the Secretary of the Department may not issue a handgun

27 qualified purchaser card to any of the following:

28                   (1) A person under the age of 21.

29                   (2) A person having been convicted in this State or elsewhere of a felony or a crime of violence involving

30 physical injury to another, whether or not armed with or having in possession any weapon during the commission of

31 such felony or crime of violence. A person who is a prohibited person under this paragraph (e)(2) solely as the result of

32 a conviction for an offense which is not a felony may be issued a handgun qualified purchaser card if 5 years have

33 elapsed from the date of conviction.

34                   (3) A person who meets any of the following:

35                   a. Has been involuntarily committed for a mental condition under Chapter 50 of Title 16, unless the

36 person can demonstrate that the person is no longer prohibited from possessing a firearm under § 1448A(l) of this

37 title.

38                   b. For a crime of violence, has been found not guilty by reason of insanity or guilty but mentally ill,

39 including any juvenile who has been found not guilty by reason of insanity or guilty but mentally ill, unless the

40 person can demonstrate that the person is no longer prohibited from possessing a firearm under § 1448A(l) of this

41 title.

42                   c. For a crime of violence, has been found mentally incompetent to stand trial, including any juvenile who

43 has been found mentally incompetent to stand trial, unless there has been a subsequent finding that the person has

44 become competent, or unless the person can demonstrate that the person is no longer prohibited from possessing a

45 firearm under § 1448A(l) of this title.

46                   d. Is the subject of an order of relinquishment issued under § 1448C of this title.

47                   (4) A person who poses a danger of causing physical injury to self or others by owning, purchasing, or

48 possessing firearms.

49                   (5) A person who has been convicted for the unlawful use, possession, or sale of a narcotic, dangerous drug,

50 or central nervous system depressant or stimulant as those terms were defined before the effective date of the Uniform

51 Controlled Substances Act in June 1973 or of a narcotic drug or controlled substance as defined in Chapter 47 of Title  
52 16.

53 (6) A person who, as a juvenile, has been adjudicated as delinquent for conduct which, if committed by an  
54 adult, would constitute a felony, unless and until that person has reached their twenty-fifth birthday.

55 (7) A person who is subject to a Family Court protection from abuse order, other than an ex parte order, but  
56 only for so long as that order remains in effect or is not vacated or otherwise terminated. This paragraph does not apply  
57 to a contested order issued solely under § 1041(1)d., e., or h. of Title 10, or any combination thereof.

58 (8) A person who has been convicted in any court of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence, if less than 5  
59 years have elapsed from the date of conviction. For purposes of this paragraph, “misdemeanor crime of domestic  
60 violence” means any misdemeanor offense that meets both of the following:

61 a. Was committed by any of the following:

62 1. A member of the victim's family, as “family” is defined in § 901 of Title 10, regardless, however,  
63 of the state of residence of the parties.

64 2. A former spouse of the victim.

65 3. A person who cohabited with the victim at the time of or within 3 years before the offense.

66 4. A person with a child in common with the victim.

67 5. A person with whom the victim had a substantive dating relationship, as defined in § 1041 of Title  
68 10, at the time of or within 3 years before the offense.

69 b. Is an offense as defined under § 601, § 602, § 603, § 611, § 614, § 621, § 625, § 628A, § 763, § 765, §  
70 766, § 767, § 781, § 785, or § 791 of this title, or any similar offense when committed or prosecuted in another  
71 jurisdiction.

72 (9) A person who, knowing that the person is the defendant or co-defendant in any criminal case in which that  
73 person is alleged to have committed any felony under the laws of this State, the United States, or any other state or  
74 territory of the United States, becomes a fugitive from justice by failing to appear for any scheduled court proceeding  
75 pertaining to the felony for which proper notice was provided or attempted.

76 (10) A person who is subject to a lethal violence protective order, issued under § 7704 of Title 10, but only for  
77 so long as that order remains in effect or is not vacated or otherwise terminated under Chapter 77 of Title 10.

78 (11)a. Except as otherwise provided under paragraph (e)(11)b. of this section, a person who, in the 5 years  
79 before the date of application, has not completed a firearms training course that is sponsored by a federal, state, county,  
80 or municipal law-enforcement agency; a college; a nationally recognized organization that customarily offers firearms

81 training; or a firearms training school with instructors certified by a nationally recognized organization that customarily  
82 offers firearms training. The firearms training course must consist of at least all of the following:

83 1. Instruction regarding knowledge and safe handling of firearms.

84 2. Instruction regarding safe storage of firearms and child safety.

85 3. Instruction regarding knowledge and safe handling of ammunition.

86 4. Instruction regarding safe storage of ammunition and child safety.

87 5. Instruction regarding safe firearms shooting fundamentals.

88 6. Live fire shooting exercises conducted on a range, including the expenditure of a minimum of 100  
89 rounds of ammunition.

90 7. Identification of ways to develop and maintain firearm shooting skills.

91 8. Instruction regarding federal and state laws pertaining to the lawful purchase, ownership,  
92 transportation, use, and possession of firearms.

93 9. Instruction regarding the laws of this State pertaining to the use of deadly force for self-defense.

94 10. Instruction regarding techniques for avoiding a criminal attack and how to manage a violent  
95 confrontation, including conflict resolution.

96 11. Instruction regarding suicide prevention.

97 b. This paragraph (e)(11) does not apply to a person who holds a valid license to carry a concealed deadly  
98 weapon under § 1441, § 1441A, or § 1441B of this title.

99 (12) A person who is otherwise prohibited from purchasing or possessing firearms under the law of this State  
100 or federal law.

101 (f) A person must submit an application for a handgun qualified purchaser card to the Secretary of the Department,  
102 who shall investigate the application and, unless grounds exist for the denial thereof, grant the applicable card within 30  
103 days from the date of receipt of the application.

104 (1) The Secretary shall take the fingerprints of each person who applies for a card and compare the  
105 fingerprints with any records of fingerprints in the State. The Secretary shall conduct a search of the Delaware  
106 Criminal Justice Information System to determine if the applicant is prohibited under law of this State or federal law  
107 from purchasing or possessing a firearm. The Secretary shall also submit the person's fingerprints to the Federal  
108 Bureau of Investigation with a request that a search of the National Instant Criminal Background Check System be  
109 conducted.

110           (2) In investigating the application, the Secretary shall contact the local law-enforcement agencies of the  
111           county or municipality in which the person resides and inquire as to any facts and circumstances relevant to the  
112           person's qualification for a handgun qualified purchaser card.

113           (g) If the Secretary of the Department determines that a person does not qualify for a handgun qualified purchaser  
114           card, the Secretary shall deny the application and notify the person in a writing setting forth the specific reasons for the  
115           determination.

116           (h) A handgun qualified purchaser card is valid for a period of 180 days from the date of issuance.

117           (1) Each card must bear a unique permit number, the full name and address of the person issued the card, the  
118           date on which the card expires, and any other information as required by state law and regulation.

119           (2) The person issued the card may purchase handguns using the card while the card is valid.

120           (i)(1) If, at any time following the issuance of a handgun qualified purchaser card, a person issued a card becomes  
121           disqualified for any of the reasons under subsection (e) of this section, the card is void and must be returned by the person  
122           within 5 days to the Secretary of the Department.

123           (2) A person's failure to return the card to the Secretary within the 5 days is a class A misdemeanor. The  
124           Superior Court has exclusive jurisdiction of a violation of this paragraph (i)(2).

125           (j)(1) A handgun qualified purchaser card may be revoked at any time by the Secretary of the Department upon a  
126           finding that a person issued the card no longer qualifies for the card.

127           (2) The Secretary shall give written notice of revocation without unnecessary delay to the person issued the  
128           card, State Police, and local law-enforcement agencies of the county or municipality in which the person resides.

129           (3) Within 5 days of notice of revocation, the person must return the card to the Secretary.

130           (4) A person's failure to return the card to the Secretary within 5 days of notice of revocation is a class A  
131           misdemeanor. The Superior Court has exclusive jurisdiction of a violation of this paragraph (j)(4).

132           (5) If the Secretary has given written notice of revocation and there is probable cause to believe that the  
133           person issued the card has firearms in the person's custody, possession, or control, the State Police shall take action to  
134           ensure removal of the firearms.

135           (k) A person aggrieved by the denial or revocation of a handgun qualified purchaser card may request a hearing in  
136           the Justice of the Peace Court for the county in which the person resides.

137           (1) The request for a hearing must be made in writing within 30 days of the denial of the application for the  
138           card or the revocation of the card.

139           (2) The person shall serve a copy of the person's request for a hearing on the chief of police of the county or  
140           municipality in which the person resides and on the Secretary of the Department.

141           (3) The hearing must be held and a record made thereof within 15 days of the receipt of the application for a  
142           hearing by a Justice of the Peace.

143           (4) A formal pleading or a filing fee is not required to obtain a hearing.

144           (l) Not later than [1 year after the effective date of this Act] and annually thereafter, the Secretary of the  
145           Department shall submit to the House and Senate committees on the Judiciary a report that includes all of the following,  
146           with respect to the preceding year:

147           (1) The number of applications submitted for a handgun qualified purchaser card, the number of cards issued,  
148           and the number of applications denied.

149           (2) The number of hearings requested by applicants aggrieved by a denial or revocation of a handgun  
150           qualified purchaser card and the disposition of those hearings.

151           (3) The number of handgun qualified purchaser cards revoked by the Secretary.

152           (4) The number of handgun qualified purchaser cards returned to the Secretary.

153           (5) The number of cases in which the State Police has taken action to remove firearms from prohibited  
154           possessors.

155           (6) Demographic data on applicants seeking a handgun qualified purchaser card, including race, ethnicity,  
156           national origin, sex, gender, age, disability, and English language proficiency.

157           (7) Demographic data on applicants aggrieved by a denial or revocation for a handgun qualified purchaser  
158           card, including race, ethnicity, national origin, sex, gender, age, disability, and English language proficiency.

159           § 1448E. Record reporting for sales and transfers of handguns.

160           (a) A transferor who sells, transfers, or delivers a handgun under § 1448A or § 1448B of this title shall, in addition  
161           to the requirements of Chapter 9 of Title 24, submit to the Department a copy of the federal firearms transaction record  
162           under Title 27 of the Code of Federal Regulations or, if no such record was completed, the record described in subsection  
163           (g) of this section. The transferor shall submit the record within 72 hours of a sale, transfer, or delivery of a handgun. The  
164           transferor may scan and submit the record in electronic format.

165           (b) For all purchases, transfers, and deliveries of handguns, the transferor must include on the record the  
166           identification number of the handgun qualified purchaser card presented by the purchaser or transferee at the time of the  
167           sale, transfer, or delivery. For all purchases, transfers, and deliveries of handguns, the transferor shall retain a copy of the

168 original handgun qualified purchaser card presented by the purchaser or transferee and attach a copy of the card to the  
169 record before submitting the record to the Department.

170 (c) The transferor shall retain a copy of all records for all handguns sold, transferred, or delivered.

171 (d) The Department shall maintain a searchable database of all records received, which must at all times be open  
172 for inspection by any judge, justice of the peace, police officer, constable, or other peace officer of this State.

173 (e) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, any inspection by a judge, justice of the peace, police officer,  
174 constable, or other peace officer of this State must be reasonable under the circumstances existing at the time and must only  
175 be made under and in furtherance of an open criminal investigation or during the course of a criminal prosecution.

176 (f) Records, data, information, or reports containing the name, address, date of birth, or other identifying data of  
177 either the transferor or transferee, or which contain the make, model, caliber, serial number, or other identifying data of any  
178 handgun which are required, authorized, or maintained under this section or by Chapter 9 of Title 24, are not subject to  
179 disclosure or release under the Freedom of Information Act, Chapter 100 of Title 29.

180 (g) The Department shall, no later than 30 days before [the effective date of this Act], develop and make available  
181 throughout the State a standard record form for use by transferors who have not completed a federal firearms transaction  
182 record, which record must be in substantially similar form to the federal transaction record. The Department may not charge  
183 for forms or any other act performed or materials provided by a government employee or agency in connection with  
184 reporting of the sale or transfer of a handgun under this section.

185 Section 2. Amend § 1448A, Title 11 of the Delaware Code by making deletions as shown by strike through and  
186 insertions as shown by underline as follows:

187 § 1448A. Criminal history record checks and licenses required for sales of firearms.

188 (a)(1) ~~No~~ A licensed importer, licensed ~~manufacturer~~ manufacturer, or licensed dealer ~~shall~~ may not sell, transfer  
189 transfer, or deliver from inventory any firearm, as defined in § 222 of this title, to any other person, other than a licensed  
190 importer, licensed manufacturer, licensed dealer, or licensed collector, without conducting a criminal history background  
191 check in accordance with regulations promulgated by the United States Department of Justice ~~pursuant to~~ under the  
192 National Instant Criminal Background Check System ("NICS"), 28 C.F.R. §§ 25.1-25.11, as the same may be amended  
193 from time to time, to determine whether the transfer of a firearm to any person who is not licensed under 18 U.S.C. § 923  
194 would be in violation of federal or state law. This paragraph (a)(1) does not apply to transactions in which the potential  
195 buyer or transferee holds a valid concealed deadly weapons license under §§ 1441, 1441A, and 1441B of this title.

196 (2) A licensed importer, licensed manufacturer, or licensed dealer may not sell, transfer, or deliver from  
197 inventory a handgun to any other person, other than a licensed importer, licensed manufacturer, licensed dealer, or

198 licensed collector, unless the purchaser, lessee, or transferee presents to the licensed importer, licensed manufacturer,  
199 or licensed dealer a valid handgun qualified purchaser card issued to that person by the Secretary of the Department of  
200 Safety and Homeland Security under § 1448D of this title.

201 (3) For the purposes of this section:

202 a. "Handgun" means a pistol, revolver, or other firearm designed to be readily capable of being fired  
203 when held in 1 hand.

204 b. "Transferor" means a licensed dealer, licensed manufacturer, or licensed importer, or employee  
205 thereof, or any other person who sells, transfers, or delivers a firearm.

206 (b) No licensed importer, licensed ~~manufacturer~~ manufacturer, or licensed dealer shall sell, ~~transfer~~ transfer, or  
207 deliver from inventory any firearm, as defined in § 222 of this title, to any other person, other than a licensed importer,  
208 licensed manufacturer, licensed dealer, or licensed collector, unless and until being informed that it may "proceed" with the  
209 sale, ~~transfer~~ transfer, or delivery from inventory of a firearm by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), NICS Section  
210 pursuant to the request for a criminal history record check required by subsection (a) of this section or 25 days have elapsed  
211 from the date of the request for a background check and a denial has not occurred. This subsection does not apply to  
212 transactions in which the potential buyer or transferee holds a valid concealed deadly weapons license under §§ 1441,  
213 1441A, and 1441B of this title.

214 (e) The provisions of this section ~~shall do not apply to:~~ do not apply to:

215 (1) Any firearm (including any firearm with a matchlock, flintlock, percussion cap, or similar type of ignition  
216 system) manufactured in or before ~~1898;~~ 1898.

217 (2) Any replica of any firearm described in paragraph (e)(1) of this section if such replica:

218 a. Is not designed or redesigned to use rimfire or conventional centerfire fixed ~~ammunition;~~ or  
219 ammunition.

220 b. Uses rimfire or conventional centerfire fixed ammunition which is no longer manufactured in the  
221 United States and which is not readily available in the ordinary channels of commercial ~~trade;~~ trade.

222 (3) Any shotgun, which is defined as a firearm designed or intended to be fired from the shoulder and  
223 designed or made to fire through a smooth bore either a number of ball shot or a single projectile for each single pull of  
224 the ~~trigger;~~ trigger.

225 (4) The return, by a licensed pawnbroker, of a firearm to the person from whom it was ~~received;~~ received.

226 (5) ~~Transactions in which the potential buyer or transferee holds a valid concealed deadly weapons license~~  
227 ~~pursuant to §§ 1441, 1441A and 1441B of this title; and [Transferred.]~~



228 (6) Transactions involving a “law-enforcement officer” as defined by § 222 of this title.

229 (f) ~~Any licensed dealer, licensed manufacturer, licensed importer or employee thereof~~ A transferor who wilfully  
230 and intentionally requests a criminal history record check from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, NICS for any purpose  
231 other than compliance with subsection (a) of this section or § 1448B(a) of this title, or wilfully and intentionally  
232 disseminates any criminal history record information to any person other than the subject of such information or discloses  
233 to any person the unique identification number shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor. The Superior Court shall have  
234 exclusive jurisdiction for all offenses under this subsection.

235 (h)(1) ~~Any licensed dealer, licensed manufacturer, licensed importer or employee thereof~~ A transferor who  
236 wilfully and intentionally sells or delivers a firearm in violation of this section shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor.  
237 Second or subsequent offenses by an individual shall be a class G felony.

238 (2) A transferor who, in connection with the sale, transfer, or delivery from inventory of a handgun under this  
239 section or § 1448B of this title, wilfully and intentionally fails to comply with the recordkeeping requirements under §  
240 1448E of this title is guilty of a class A misdemeanor. A second or subsequent violation of this paragraph (h)(2) is a  
241 class G felony.

242 (3) The Superior Court has exclusive jurisdiction of a violation of this subsection.

243 Section 3. Amend § 1448B, Title 11 of the Delaware Code by making deletions as shown by strike through and  
244 insertions as shown by underline as follows:

245 § 1448B. Criminal history record checks and licenses required for sales of firearms — Unlicensed persons.

246 (a)(1) ~~No~~ An unlicensed person shall may not sell or transfer any firearm, as defined in § 222 of this title, to any  
247 other unlicensed person without having conducted a criminal history background check through a licensed firearms dealer  
248 in accordance with § 1448A of this title and § 904A of Title 24, as the same may be amended from time to time, to  
249 determine whether the sale or transfer would be in violation of federal or state law, and until the licensed firearms dealer  
250 has been informed that the sale or transfer of the firearm may "proceed" by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, NICS  
251 Section or 25 days have elapsed from the date of the request for a background check and a denial has not occurred. This  
252 paragraph (a)(1) does not apply to transactions in which the potential purchaser or transferee holds a current and valid  
253 concealed carry permit issued by the Superior Court of the State of Delaware under § 1441 of this title.

254 (2) An unlicensed person may not sell or transfer a handgun to any other unlicensed person unless the  
255 potential purchaser or transferee presents to the seller or transferor a valid handgun qualified purchaser card issued to  
256 that person by the Secretary of the Department of Safety and Homeland Security under § 1448D of this title.

257 (b) For purposes of this section:

258 (1) “Handgun” means a pistol, revolver, or other firearm designed to be readily capable of being fired when  
259 held in 1 hand.

260 (~~4~~)(2) “Licensed dealer” means any person licensed as a deadly weapons dealer ~~pursuant to~~ under Chapter 9  
261 of Title 24 and 18 U.S.C. § 921 et seq.

262 (~~2~~)(3) “Transfer” means assigning, pledging, leasing, loaning, giving away, or otherwise disposing of, but  
263 does not ~~include~~: include any of the following:

264 a. The loan of a firearm for any lawful purpose, for a period of 14 days or less, by the owner of ~~said~~ the  
265 firearm to a person known personally to ~~him or her~~; the owner.

266 b. A temporary transfer for any lawful purpose that occurs while in the continuous presence of the owner  
267 of the firearm, provided that such temporary transfer shall not exceed 24 hours in ~~duration~~; duration.

268 c. The transfer of a firearm for repair, ~~service~~ service, or modification to a licensed gunsmith or other  
269 person lawfully engaged in such activities as a regular course of trade or ~~business~~; or business.

270 d. A transfer that occurs by operation of law or because of the death of a person for whom the prospective  
271 transferor is an executor or administrator of an estate or a trustee of a trust created in a will.

272 (~~3~~)(4) “Unlicensed person” means any person who is not a licensed importer, licensed ~~manufacturer~~  
273 manufacturer, or licensed dealer.

274 (c) The provisions of this section ~~shall do not apply to~~: to any of the following:

275 (1) Transactions in which the potential purchaser or transferee is a parent, mother-in-law, father-in-law,  
276 stepparent, legal guardian, grandparent, child, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, stepchild, grandchild, sibling, sister-in-law,  
277 brother-in-law, spouse, or civil union partner of the seller or ~~transferor~~; transferor.

278 (2) Any firearm (including any firearm with a matchlock, flintlock, percussion cap, or similar type of ignition  
279 system) manufactured in or before ~~1898~~; 1898.

280 (3) Any replica of any firearm described in paragraph (c)(2) of this section if such replica:

281 a. Is not designed or redesigned to use rimfire or conventional centerfire fixed ~~ammunition~~; or  
282 ammunition.

283 b. Uses rimfire or conventional centerfire fixed ammunition which is no longer manufactured in the  
284 United States and which is not readily available in the ordinary channels of commercial ~~trade~~; trade.

285 (4) Any muzzle-loading firearm designed for hunting or competitive shooting not requiring a criminal  
286 background check ~~pursuant to~~ under federal ~~law~~; law.

287 (5) Transactions in which the potential purchaser or transferee is a qualified law-enforcement officer, as  
288 defined in § 1441A of this title, or a qualified retired law-enforcement officer, as defined in § 1441B of this ~~title~~; title.

289 (6) ~~Transactions in which the potential purchaser or transferee holds a current and valid concealed carry~~  
290 ~~permit issued by the Superior Court of the State of Delaware pursuant to § 1441 of this title. [Transferred.]~~

291 (7) Transactions in which the prospective buyer or transferee is a bona fide member or adherent of an  
292 organized church or religious group, the tenets of which prohibit photographic identification; provided, however, that  
293 no unlicensed person shall sell or transfer any firearm to any such person without having conducted a criminal history  
294 background check in accordance with subsection (f) of this section hereunder to determine whether the sale or transfer  
295 would be in violation of federal or state ~~law~~; law.

296 (8) Transactions involving the sale or transfer of a curio or relic to a licensed collector, as such terms are  
297 defined in 27 C.F.R. 478.11, as the same may be amended from time to ~~time~~; time.

298 (9) Transactions involving the sale or transfer of a firearm to an authorized representative of the State or any  
299 subdivision thereof as part of an authorized voluntary gun buyback program.

300 Section 4. Amend § 904A, Title 24 of the Delaware Code by making deletions as shown by strike through and  
301 insertions as shown by underline as follows:

302 § 904A. Criminal history checks for sales between unlicensed persons.

303 (c) Nothing in this section, or any other section of the Code, ~~shall authorize or permit~~ authorizes or permits the  
304 State or any agency, ~~department~~ department, or instrumentality ~~thereof~~ of the State to establish any system for the  
305 registration of firearms, firearm owners, or firearm transactions or dispositions, except with respect to persons prohibited  
306 from receiving a firearm ~~as set forth in~~ under Chapter 5 of Title 11. Any such system of registration is expressly prohibited.  
307 Nothing in this subsection limits the authority granted in this chapter or in Chapter 5 of Title 11 to the State or any agency,  
308 department, or instrumentality of the State regarding records kept for the exclusive use of law-enforcement officials in  
309 furtherance of an open criminal investigation or during the course of a criminal prosecution.

310 Section 5. This Act takes effect 6 months following its enactment into law.

#### SYNOPSIS

This Act does all of the following:

(1) Creates an application process to obtain a handgun qualified purchaser card to authorize the purchase of a handgun. While an applicant will incur costs related to fingerprinting and required training, a fee will not be charged to obtain the permit.

(2) Requires licensed importers, manufacturers, or dealers, as well as unlicensed persons, to require an individual to present the individual's handgun qualified purchaser card before selling or transferring a firearm to an individual.

(3) Requires that an applicant complete a firearms training course within 5 years before the date of application, similar to what is required by Delaware's concealed carry permit law. An individual licensed to carry a concealed deadly weapon is exempt from this requirement as they must already complete a firearms training course to be licensed.

(4) Sends to law-enforcement information that is already collected at the time of sale and required under federal law to be made available to law-enforcement. This change assists law-enforcement in the criminal investigations they already conduct.

(5) Makes clear that § 904A of Title 24 is not intended to prohibit law-enforcement officials from keeping records of sales and transfers of firearms for their use during criminal investigations or prosecutions.

This Act also makes technical corrections to conform existing law to the standards of the Delaware Legislative Drafting Manual.

Author: Senator Lockman