

By: Representative Fleming

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 219

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE TRIGGER LOCKS AND BALLISTIC FINGERPRINTS
2 FOR ALL FIREARMS; TO REQUIRE TAMPER-PROOF SERIAL NUMBERS; TO
3 PROVIDE IMMUNITY FOR MANUFACTURERS WHO COMPLY WITH THIS ACT; TO
4 PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THIS ACT; TO REQUIRE PERMITS
5 AND RECORD KEEPING; TO AMEND SECTION 97-37-11, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF
6 1972, IN CONFORMITY TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT; AND FOR RELATED
7 PURPOSES.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

9 **SECTION 1.** (1) All firearms sold in the state or sold to
10 residents of this state shall be equipped with trigger locks or
11 other mechanisms that restricts the unauthorized use of such
12 firearms. The Attorney General shall notify all firearms dealers
13 periodically of any trigger locks or other mechanisms that have
14 been tested and reported as faulty.

15 (2) On January 1, 2004, and thereafter all guns sold in the
16 state shall have built-in trigger locking devices and tamper-proof
17 serial numbers.

18 (3) All firearms sold in the state shall have ballistic
19 fingerprints on file with the Department of Public Safety.

20 (4) Any firearms manufacturer who complies with the
21 provisions of this act voluntarily shall be immune from any civil
22 action from any political subdivision on or after January 1, 2004.

23 (5) Any firearms dealer who violates this section shall have
24 his dealership and business privilege license revoked for two (2)
25 years and shall be fined Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00).

26 (6) Any firearms dealer or person who sells or possesses a
27 firearm with tampered or altered serial numbers shall be guilty of
28 a felony and upon conviction shall be imprisoned for not more than
29 three (3) years.



30 (7) If any person who possesses a firearm without a trigger
31 lock or other locking mechanism which has been reported stolen
32 that is used in the commission of a crime, the owner of such
33 firearm shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall
34 be fined no more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00). If such
35 firearm has not been reported stolen, the owner of such firearm
36 shall be guilty of gun safety indifference, a felony, and upon
37 conviction shall be imprisoned for not more than three (3) years.

38 (8) On and after July 1, 2003, all firearm owners are
39 required to have a permit and proof that all firearms possessed
40 are in compliance with this section. All firearms shall be
41 registered with the Department of Public Safety by July 1, 2003.
42 The department is authorized to assess reasonable fees for such
43 permit and registration.

44 **SECTION 2.** Section 97-37-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
45 amended as follows:

46 97-37-11. Every merchant or dealer or pawnbroker that sells
47 bowie-knives, dirk-knives, pistols, brass or metallic knuckles or
48 slungshots, or pistol or rifle cartridges, shall keep a record of
49 all sales of such weapons and cartridges sold, showing the
50 description of the weapons and kind and caliber of cartridges so
51 sold, the name of the purchaser, and the description of weapons
52 and the quantity of cartridges and date of sale. Every such
53 merchant, dealer or pawnbroker shall comply with the provisions of
54 Section 1 of this act and shall keep records of such compliance.
55 These records shall be opened to public inspection at any time to
56 persons desiring to see it. The dealer who violates this section
57 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be
58 fined not less than * * * Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) nor more
59 than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00).

60 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
61 and after January 1, 2002.

