

By: Senator(s) Norwood, Simmons (13th),
Thomas, Brumfield

To: Judiciary, Division B

SENATE BILL NO. 2363

1 AN ACT TO ENACT THE RESPONSIBLE FIREARM PURCHASING ACT TO
2 PROHIBIT THE PURCHASE OF A FIREARM BY A MINOR; TO DEFINE TERMS; TO
3 PROVIDE THAT IT IS UNLAWFUL FOR A MINOR TO PURCHASE A FIREARM,
4 HANDGUN, AMMUNITION OR ARMOR PIERCING AMMUNITION; TO PROVIDE THAT
5 IT IS UNLAWFUL TO SELL A MINOR A FIREARM, HANDGUN, AMMUNITION OR
6 ARMOR PIERCING AMMUNITION; TO PROVIDE THAT THE SALE OF A FIREARM,
7 HANDGUN, AMMUNITION OR ARMOR PIERCING AMMUNITION SHALL COMPLY WITH
8 ALL STANDARDS AS PROVIDED BY FEDERAL AND STATE LAW; TO PROVIDE
9 CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR A VIOLATION OF THIS ACT; AND FOR RELATED
10 PURPOSES.

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

12 **SECTION 1.** This act shall be known and may be cited as the
13 "Responsible Firearm Purchasing Act."

14 **SECTION 2.** As used in this act, the following terms shall
15 have the meanings ascribed herein unless the context indicates
16 otherwise:

17 (a) "Ammunition" means ammunition or cartridge cases,
18 primers, bullets or propellant powder designed for use in any
19 firearm.

20 (b) "Armor piercing ammunition" means:

21 (i) A projectile or projectile core which may be
22 used in a handgun and which is constructed entirely (excluding the



23 presence of traces of other substances) from one or a combination
24 of tungsten alloys, steel, iron, brass, bronze, beryllium copper
25 or depleted uranium; or

26 (ii) A full jacketed projectile larger than .22
27 caliber designed and intended for use in a handgun and whose
28 jacket has a weight of more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the
29 total weight of the projectile.

30 The term "armor piercing ammunition" does not include shotgun
31 shot required by federal or state environmental or game
32 regulations for hunting purposes, a frangible projectile designed
33 for target shooting, a projectile which the Attorney General finds
34 is primarily intended to be used for sporting purposes, or any
35 other projectile or projectile core which the Attorney General
36 finds is intended to be used for industrial purposes, including a
37 charge used in an oil and gas well perforating device.

38 (c) "Antique firearm" shall have the meaning provided
39 in the United State Code.

40 (d) "Firearm" means:

41 (i) Any weapon (including a starter gun) which
42 will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a
43 projectile by the action of an explosive;

44 (ii) The frame or receiver of any such weapon;

45 (iii) Any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or

46 (iv) Any destructive device.

47 The term "firearm" does not include an antique firearm.



48 (e) The terms "firearm silencer" and "firearm muffler"
49 mean any device for silencing, muffling, or diminishing the report
50 of a portable firearm, including any combination of parts,
51 designed or redesigned, and intended for use in assembling or
52 fabricating a firearm silencer or firearm muffler, and any part
53 intended only for use in such assembly or fabrication.

54 (f) The term "handgun" means:

55 (i) A firearm which has a short stock and is
56 designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand; and

57 (ii) Any combination of parts from which a firearm
58 described in subparagraph (i) of this paragraph can be assembled.

59 **SECTION 3.** (1) It shall be unlawful for a minor in this
60 state to purchase a firearm, handgun, ammunition or armor piercing
61 ammunition.

62 (2) It shall be unlawful to sell a minor in this state a
63 firearm, handgun, ammunition or armor piercing ammunition.

64 **SECTION 4.** The purchase of a firearm, handgun, ammunition or
65 armor piercing ammunition shall comply with all standards as
66 provided by federal and state law.

67 **SECTION 5.** A minor who violates this Section 2 of this act
68 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Upon adjudication, the minor
69 shall be fined no more than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) or
70 subject to a term of imprisonment no than thirty (30) days, or
71 both.



72 **SECTION 6.** A person who is twenty-one (21) years old and
73 violates Section 2 or 3 of this act shall be guilty of a felony.
74 Upon conviction, the defendant shall be fined no more than Two
75 Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) or subject to a term of imprisonment
76 of no than two (2) years in the custody of the Department of
77 Corrections, or both.

78 **SECTION 7.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
79 and after July 1, 2024.

