

SB25-003

Semiautomatic Firearms & Rapid-Fire Devices

Concerning prohibited activity involving semiautomatic firearms, and, in connection therewith, prohibiting the manufacture, distribution, transfer, sale, and purchase of specified semiautomatic firearms, classifying a device that increases the rate of fire of a semiautomatic firearm as a dangerous weapon, and making an appropriation.

SESSION:

2025 Regular Session

SUBJECT:

Crimes, Corrections, & Enforcement

BILL SUMMARY

The bill defines a "specified semiautomatic firearm" as a semiautomatic rifle or semiautomatic shotgun with a detachable magazine or a gas-operated semiautomatic handgun with a detachable magazine. *The bill excludes from the definition certain types of firearms and specified models of firearms.*

The bill prohibits knowingly manufacturing, distributing, transferring, selling, or purchasing a specified semiautomatic firearm; except that a person may transfer a specified semiautomatic firearm to ~~an heir~~, an individual residing in another state or a federally licensed firearm dealer. *The bill exempts certain manufacture, transfer, sale, and purchase from the prohibition, including specified transactions involving law enforcement agencies and peace officers, the department of corrections, armored vehicle businesses, military forces, gunsmiths, educational programs, transfer that occurs by operation of law or because of the death of a person, and certain firearms for use solely as a prop for a film. Additionally, the prohibition does not apply to the transfer or sale of a specified semiautomatic firearm to, and receipt or purchase of a specified semiautomatic firearm by, a person who:*

- *Completed a hunter education course certified by the division of parks and wildlife and, within 5 years before making the purchase, completed a basic firearms safety course;*
- *Within 5 years before making the purchase, completed an extended firearms safety course; or*
- *Completed an extended firearms safety course more than 5 years before making the purchase and completed a basic firearms safety course within 5 years before making the purchase.*

Unlawful manufacture, distribution, transfer, sale, or purchase of a specified semiautomatic firearm is a class 2 misdemeanor; except that a second or subsequent offense is a class 6 felony. The department of revenue shall revoke the state firearms dealer permit of a dealer who unlawfully manufactures, distributes, transfers, sells, or

purchases a specified semiautomatic firearm. The Colorado bureau of investigation shall deny the transfer of a firearm to a person who was convicted of misdemeanor unlawful manufacture, distribution, transfer, sale, or purchase of a specified semiautomatic firearm within 5 years prior to the transfer. A person convicted of felony unlawful manufacture, distribution, transfer, sale, or purchase of a specified semiautomatic firearm is prohibited from possessing a firearm or certain other weapons.

The bill sets the requirements for a basic firearms safety course and an extended firearms safety course. In order to enroll in a basic or extended firearms safety course, a person must hold a valid firearms safety course eligibility card (firearms course card) issued by a sheriff. The bill sets the requirements to be issued a firearms course card, which include completing a fingerprint-based criminal history record check to determine that the applicant satisfies the criteria to receive a firearms course card.

The bill requires the division of parks and wildlife (division) to develop and maintain a firearms training and safety course record system (system) that includes records of persons who hold a valid firearms course card and who have completed a hunter education course, a basic firearms safety course, or an extended firearms safety course. The system must allow the instructor of a basic or extended firearms safety course to request and receive information about whether a person holds a valid firearms course card, the instructor of a hunter education course or a basic or extended firearms safety course to electronically enter into the system information about each student who completes a course, and a federal firearms licensee to electronically request and receive information about whether a person has completed the courses necessary to purchase a specified semiautomatic firearm.

The bill makes the unlawful sale, transfer, or possession of a large-capacity magazine a class 1 misdemeanor.

Existing law prohibits possession of a dangerous weapon. The bill defines "rapid-fire device" and classifies rapid-fire devices as dangerous weapons under Colorado law. The bill repeals the definition of "machine gun conversion device" and removes machine gun conversion devices from the list of dangerous weapons.

(Note: Italicized words indicate new material added to the original summary; dashes through words indicate deletions from the original summary.)

(Note: This summary applies to the reengrossed version of this bill as introduced in the second house.)