



2007 SENATE BILL 104

March 21, 2007 - Introduced by Senators COGGS and LEHMAN, cosponsored by Representatives YOUNG, GRIGSBY, SINICKI, A. WILLIAMS, ZEPNICK, FIELDS, STASKUNAS, BERCEAU, TURNER and TOLES. Referred to Committee on Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs.

1 **AN ACT** *to renumber* 175.35 (3); *to amend* 175.35 (2f), 175.35 (2g) (b), 175.35
2 (2g) (c) (intro.), 175.35 (2i), 175.35 (2j), 175.35 (2k) (ar) 2., 175.35 (2k) (b) 2. a.,
3 175.35 (2k) (g) and 175.35 (2k) (h); and *to create* 175.35 (2g) (c) 5., 175.35 (2gm)
4 and 175.35 (3) (b) of the statutes; **relating to:** requiring firearms restrictions
5 record searches for certain transfers of handguns involving residents of
6 Milwaukee County, requiring the exercise of rule-making authority, and
7 providing a penalty.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a firearms dealer must request that the Department of Justice (DOJ) perform a firearms restrictions record search on a handgun purchaser before the dealer may complete a sale of a handgun to the purchaser. If DOJ does not identify any firearms restrictions or if DOJ fails to complete the record search within 48 hours after receiving the request, subject to a limited extension, the firearms dealer may complete the sale. A person may be prohibited from possessing a firearm for several reasons, including that he or she is a felon or, in connection with a civil commitment or a domestic abuse injunction, has been ordered not to possess a firearm.

This bill requires that if a resident of Milwaukee County is a party to a transfer of a handgun and no firearms dealer is involved in the transfer, a firearms

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restrictions record search must be conducted on the transferee before the handgun may be transferred. Under the bill, the transferee must request a firearms restrictions record search through a firearms dealer. The firearms dealer must submit the search request to DOJ and must provide notice of the search results to the person transferring the handgun, as identified by the transferee. The handgun may be transferred once the firearms dealer provides the transferor written notice that either DOJ did not identify any firearms restrictions or that DOJ failed to complete the record search within 48 hours after receiving the request, subject to a limited extension. The bill allows firearms dealers to charge the transferee the fee charged by DOJ for record searches plus an additional \$5. The bill provides that any person who intentionally violates the firearms restrictions record search requirement for handgun transfers that involve a resident of Milwaukee County and do not involve a firearms dealer is subject to a fine not to exceed \$25,000 or a term of imprisonment (consisting of a term of confinement followed by a term of extended supervision) that may not exceed ten years or both a fine and imprisonment.

Because this bill creates a new crime or revises a penalty for an existing crime, the Joint Review Committee on Criminal Penalties may be requested to prepare a report concerning the proposed penalty and the costs or savings that are likely to result if the bill is enacted.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1 **SECTION 1.** 175.35 (2f) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 175.35 **(2f)** When a firearms dealer requests that the department of justice
3 provide a firearms restrictions record search under sub. (2g) or (2gm), he or she shall
4 provide truthful information about his or her status as a firearms dealer and shall
5 provide an accurate firearms dealer identification number obtained under sub. (2h).
6 A person may request that the department provide a firearms restrictions record
7 search under sub. (2g) or (2gm) only if he or she is a firearms dealer.

8 **SECTION 2.** 175.35 (2g) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 175.35 **(2g)** (b) The department of justice shall promulgate rules prescribing
10 a notification form for use under sub. ~~subs.~~ (2) and (2gm) requiring the transferee to
11 provide his or her name, date of birth, gender, race and social security number and
12 other identification necessary to permit an accurate firearms restrictions record

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1 search under par. (c) 3. and the required notification under par. (c) 4. The department
2 of justice shall make the forms available at locations throughout the state.

3 **SECTION 3.** 175.35 (2g) (c) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 175.35 **(2g)** (c) (intro.) The department of justice shall promulgate rules for
5 firearms restrictions record searches regarding transferees under ~~sub. subs. (2) and~~
6 (2gm), including procedures for all of the following:

7 **SECTION 4.** 175.35 (2g) (c) 5. of the statutes is created to read:

8 175.35 **(2g)** (c) 5. A firearms dealer to notify a transferor under sub. (2gm) in
9 writing of the results of a firearms restrictions record search regarding a transferee
10 who requests a firearms restrictions record search under sub. (2gm) (a) 1.

11 **SECTION 5.** 175.35 (2gm) of the statutes is created to read:

12 175.35 **(2gm)** (a) A person other than a firearms dealer may not transfer a
13 handgun to a resident of Milwaukee County who is not a firearms dealer, and a
14 resident of Milwaukee County who is not a firearms dealer may not transfer a
15 handgun to a person other than a firearms dealer, unless all of the following have
16 occurred:

17 1. The transferee has done all of the following:

18 a. Provided identification to a firearms dealer as required by rule under sub.
19 (2g) (a).

20 b. Completed a notification form described under sub. (2g) (b).

21 c. Provided the firearms dealer the name, address, and telephone number of
22 the transferor from whom the transferee intends to obtain a handgun.

23 2. The transferor receives written notification from a firearms dealer that the
24 dealer requested the department of justice to conduct a firearms restrictions record
25 search regarding the transferee and either the department issued a unique approval

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1 number for the transferee under sub. (2g) (c) 4. b. or the department did not complete
2 a firearms restrictions record search within the time period under sub. (2) (d) or (2g)
3 (c) 4. c.

4 (b) If the transferee in a transaction to which par. (a) applies requests that a
5 firearms dealer request a firearms restrictions record search regarding the
6 transferee, the firearms dealer shall do all of the following:

7 1. Inspect identification provided by a transferee under par. (a) 1. a. as required
8 by rule under sub. (2g) (a).

9 2. Promptly after receiving a completed notification form under par. (a) 1. b.,
10 convey the information from the completed notification form to the department of
11 justice as required by rule under sub. (2g) (b) and request a firearms restrictions
12 records search.

13 3. Promptly notify the transferor identified under par. (a) 1. c. in writing as
14 provided by rule under sub. (2g) (c) 5. of an approval or denial issued by the
15 department of justice under sub. (2g) (c) 4. or of the expiration of an applicable
16 deadline for completing a firearms restrictions record search under sub. (2) (d) or (2g)
17 (c) 4. c.

18 (c) The department of justice shall conduct a firearms restrictions record search
19 requested by a firearms dealer under par. (b) 2. and notify the dealer of the results
20 of the search as provided by rule under sub. (2g) (c) 4.

21 (d) A firearms dealer may charge a transferee the fee under sub. (2i) plus \$5
22 for requesting the department of justice to conduct a firearms restrictions record
23 search of the transferee under this subsection.

24 **SECTION 6.** 175.35 (2i) of the statutes is amended to read:

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1 175.35 **(2i)** The department shall charge a firearms dealer an \$8 fee for each
2 firearms restrictions record search that the firearms dealer requests under sub. (2)
3 (c) or (2gm) (b) 2. The firearms dealer may collect the fee from the transferee. The
4 department may refuse to conduct firearms restrictions record searches for any
5 firearms dealer who fails to pay any fee under this subsection within 30 days after
6 billing by the department.

7 **SECTION 7.** 175.35 (2j) of the statutes is amended to read:

8 175.35 **(2j)** A firearms dealer shall maintain the original record of all completed
9 notification forms and a record of all confirmation numbers and corresponding
10 approval or nonapproval numbers that he or she receives regarding firearms
11 restrictions record searches under sub. (2g) or (2gm). The firearms dealer shall mail
12 the duplicate copy of each completed notification form to the department of justice.

13 **SECTION 8.** 175.35 (2k) (ar) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

14 175.35 **(2k)** (ar) 2. Check each duplicate notification form received under sub.
15 (2j) against the information recorded by the department regarding the corresponding
16 request for a firearms restrictions record search under sub. (2g) or (2gm). If the
17 department previously provided a unique approval number regarding the request
18 and nothing in the duplicate completed notification form indicates that the
19 transferee is prohibited from possessing a firearm under s. 941.29, the department
20 shall destroy all records regarding that firearms restrictions record search within 30
21 days after receiving the duplicate form.

22 **SECTION 9.** 175.35 (2k) (b) 2. a. of the statutes is amended to read:

23 175.35 **(2k)** (b) 2. a. Except as provided in subd. 2. b., a log of dates of requests
24 for firearms restrictions record searches under sub. (2g) or (2gm) together with

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1 confirmation numbers, unique approval and nonapproval numbers and firearms
2 dealer identification numbers corresponding to those dates.

3 **SECTION 10.** 175.35 (2k) (g) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 175.35 **(2k)** (g) If a search conducted under sub. (2g) or (2gm) indicates that the
5 transferee is prohibited from possessing a firearm under s. 941.29, the attorney
6 general or his or her designee may disclose to a law enforcement agency that the
7 transferee has attempted to obtain a handgun.

8 **SECTION 11.** 175.35 (2k) (h) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 175.35 **(2k)** (h) If a search conducted under sub. (2g) or (2gm) indicates a felony
10 charge without a recorded disposition and the attorney general or his or her designee
11 has reasonable grounds to believe the transferee may pose a danger to himself,
12 herself or another, the attorney general or his or her designee may disclose to a law
13 enforcement agency that the transferee has obtained or has attempted to obtain a
14 handgun.

15 **SECTION 12.** 175.35 (3) of the statutes is renumbered 175.35 (3) (a).

16 **SECTION 13.** 175.35 (3) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

17 175.35 **(3)** (b) Any person who intentionally violates sub. (2gm) (a) is guilty of
18 a Class G felony.

19 **SECTION 14. Effective date.**

20 (1) This act takes effect on the first day of the 13th month beginning after
21 publication.

22 (END)