
ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5697

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2012 Regular Session

By Senate Judiciary (originally sponsored by Senators Hargrove and Schoesler)

READ FIRST TIME 02/02/12.

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring firearms safety devices and gun safes
2 to meet minimum standards if purchased, used, or issued by governmental
3 agencies and limiting the civil liability of governmental agencies and
4 agents who provide or properly use approved firearms safety devices or
5 gun safes; and adding a new chapter to Title 42 RCW.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1)(a) If a governmental agency chooses to
8 purchase, use, or issue a firearms safety device or gun safe, that
9 device or safe must meet the minimum standards for gun safes and
10 firearms safety devices as provided in subsection (2) of this section
11 on the date of purchase.

12 (b) Nothing in this section shall require any governmental agency
13 to purchase, possess, use, or issue firearms safety devices or gun
14 safes.

15 (2) The devices identified by the California department of justice
16 pursuant to Title 2, sections 12087-12088.9 of the California penal
17 code, effective July 1, 2012, meet the minimum standards for gun safes
18 and firearms safety devices.

19 (3) For purposes of this section:

1 (a) "Firearm" means a firearm as defined in RCW 9.41.010.

2 (b) "Firearms safety device" means a device other than a gun safe
3 that locks and is designed to prevent children and unauthorized users
4 from firing a firearm. The device may be installed on a firearm, be
5 incorporated into the design of the firearm, or prevent access to the
6 firearm.

7 (c) "Governmental agency" means any department or agency of state,
8 county, or local government.

9 (d) "Gun safe" means a locking container that fully contains and
10 secures one or more firearms.

11 (4) A governmental agency or government agent shall not be liable
12 for civil damages resulting directly or indirectly from the purchase,
13 possession, or proper use of a firearms safety device or gun safe
14 identified as appropriate for that firearm identified under subsection
15 (2) of this section or for the purchase, possession, or proper use of
16 a firearms safety device or gun safe identified as appropriate for that
17 firearm that was purchased prior to July 1, 2012.

18 (5) A governmental agency that has purchased or issued a firearms
19 safety device or gun safe prior to July 1, 2012, must replace any
20 firearms safety device or gun safe or remove any requirement that a
21 government agent use any firearms safety device or gun safe, if it is
22 not included on the roster identified under subsection (2) of this
23 section.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** Section 1 of this act constitutes a new
25 chapter in Title 42 RCW.

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