

ASSEMBLY, No. 2490

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 213th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 10, 2008

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman PATRICK J. DIEGNAN, JR.

District 18 (Middlesex)

Assemblyman HERB CONAWAY, JR.

District 7 (Burlington and Camden)

Assemblywoman NELLIE POU

District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

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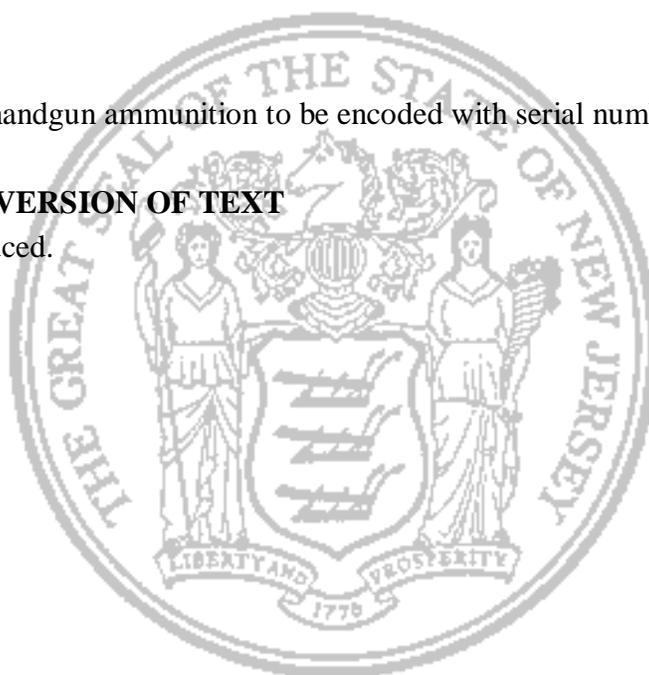
Assemblymen Vas, Ramos, Assemblywoman Tucker, Assemblyman Caputo, Assemblywoman Oliver, Assemblymen Gusciora, Prieto, Assemblywoman Quigley, Assemblymen Chiappone, Coutinho, Chivukula, Assemblywoman Spencer, Assemblymen Green, P. Barnes, III, Assemblywomen Lampitt, Greenstein, Assemblymen Johnson and L.Smith

SYNOPSIS

Requires handgun ammunition to be encoded with serial number.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 9/23/2008)

1 AN ACT concerning handgun ammunition and supplementing
2 chapter 58 of Title 2C of the New Jersey Statutes.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6

7 1. a. A manufacturer or licensed wholesale dealer of handgun
8 ammunition shall not knowingly transport into this State, nor shall
9 any licensed wholesale or retail dealer knowingly sell, expose for
10 sale, possess with the intent of selling, assign or otherwise transfer
11 any handgun ammunition manufactured after the effective date of
12 this act unless that handgun ammunition is encoded as follows:

13 (1) the base of the bullet and the inside of the cartridge casing of
14 each round in a box of ammunition are encoded with the same serial
15 number;

16 (2) each serial number is engraved in such a manner that it is
17 highly likely to permit identification after ammunition discharge
18 and bullet impact; and

19 (3) the outside of each box of ammunition is labeled with the
20 name of the manufacturer and the same serial number used on the
21 cartridge casings and bases of bullets contained in the box.

22 b. Ammunition contained in one ammunition box may not be
23 labeled with the same serial number as the ammunition contained in
24 any other ammunition box from the same manufacturer.

25 c. A person who violates any provision of this section shall be
26 guilty of a crime of the fourth degree.

27

28 2. Any person who possesses commercially purchased handgun
29 ammunition that is not encoded by the manufacturer as required in
30 section 1 of this act on or after the first day of the thirteenth month
31 following the effective date of this act is guilty of a disorderly
32 persons offense.

33

34 3. a. The Superintendent of State Police shall establish and
35 maintain an encoded handgun ammunition database.

36 b. A licensed retail dealer of encoded handgun ammunition shall
37 provide the superintendent with the following information to be
38 included in the database:

39 (1) the date of each ammunition purchase;

40 (2) the manufacturer of the ammunition;

41 (3) the caliber of the ammunition;

42 (4) the serial numbers of all ammunition purchased;

43 (5) the name and date of birth of each purchaser of ammunition;

44 (6) the driver's license number of the purchaser or other
45 appropriate identification number issued to the purchaser by the
46 State or federal government; and

47 (7) any other information the superintendent deems necessary.

1 c. A licensed retail dealer of encoded handgun ammunition shall
2 maintain copies of all records submitted to the superintendent
3 pursuant to subsection b. of this section for at least three years after
4 the date of sale.

5 d. A licensed retail dealer who violates any provision of this
6 section shall be guilty of a disorderly persons offense.
7

8 4. A person who knowingly destroys, defaces, or otherwise
9 renders unreadable the information encoded on handgun
10 ammunition as required in section 1 of this act shall be guilty of a
11 crime of the fourth degree.
12

13 5. This act shall take effect on the first day of the thirteenth
14 month following enactment, but the Superintendent of State Police
15 may take such anticipatory administrative action in advance thereof
16 as shall be necessary for the implementation of this act.
17

18
19 STATEMENT
20

21 Under this bill, manufacturers and wholesalers of handgun
22 ammunition could only transport their product into this State if it is
23 encoded with a serial number. Similarly, licensed wholesalers and
24 retailers of handgun ammunition would only be allowed to sell such
25 encoded ammunition in this State.

26 Under the bill, the base of the bullet and the inside of the
27 cartridge casing of each round in a box of ammunition must be
28 encoded with the same serial number. The serial number must be
29 engraved so that it is highly likely to permit identification after the
30 ammunition has been discharged and the bullet has impacted an
31 object. The outside of each box of ammunition also must be labeled
32 with the name of the manufacturer and the same serial number used
33 on the cartridge casings and bases of bullets contained in the box.
34 The bill specifies that ammunition contained in one ammunition
35 box may not be labeled with the same serial number as the
36 ammunition contained in any other ammunition box from the same
37 manufacturer.

38 Manufacturers, wholesalers, and retailers of handgun
39 ammunition who transport or sell handgun ammunition that is not
40 properly encoded with the required serial number are guilty of a
41 crime of the fourth degree. Fourth degree crimes are punishable by
42 a term of imprisonment of up to 18 months, a fine of up to \$10,000,
43 or both.

44 Any person who possesses commercially purchased handgun
45 ammunition that is not encoded by the manufacturer as required in
46 the bill a year after enactment is guilty of a disorderly persons
47 offense. Disorderly persons offenses are punishable by a term of
48 imprisonment of up to six months, a fine of up to \$1,000, or both.

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1 The bill also requires the Superintendent of State Police to
2 establish and maintain an encoded handgun ammunition database.
3 Licensed retail dealers who sell handgun ammunition are required
4 to provide the superintendent with the date the ammunition was
5 purchased; the manufacturer; the caliber; the serial number; the
6 name and birth date of each purchaser; the driver's license number
7 or other appropriate State or federal identification of the purchaser;
8 and any other information the superintendent requires. The seller
9 also is required to maintain copies of all records submitted to the
10 superintendent for at least three years after the sale. A seller who
11 does not comply with these requirements is guilty of a disorderly
12 persons offense.

13 Under the bill, a person who knowingly defaces or otherwise
14 renders unreadable the information encoded on handgun
15 ammunition is guilty of a crime of the fourth degree.