

ASSEMBLY LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 3687

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 13, 2013

The Assembly Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 3687.

Assembly Bill No. 3687 disqualifies a person named on the consolidated Terrorist Watchlist maintained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Terrorist Screening Center from being issued either a firearm's identification card or a permit to purchase a handgun.

Under current law, the issuance of a firearms identification card or a permit to purchase a handgun may be denied to any person if it "would not be in the interest of the public health, safety or welfare." While this provision should provide grounds for denying a person named on the Terrorist Watchlist from being issued either a firearms identification card or a permit to purchase a handgun, the inclusion of a person on the Terrorist Watchlist is of such a serious and potentially threatening nature that it warrants a separate statutory provision denying that person's capability to lawfully obtain a firearm in this State.

It is the committee's understanding that an aggrieved person who is denied a permit under the bill would have the right to request a hearing in Superior Court to appeal the denial.