
SENATE BILL 5697

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2011 Regular Session

By Senators Hargrove and Schoesler

Read first time 02/07/11. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1 AN ACT Relating to minimum standards for firearms safety devices
2 and gun safes used by governmental agencies that purchase, receive,
3 possess, use, or issue firearms and government agents who receive,
4 possess, or use a firearm issued to the agent by the agency; adding a
5 new chapter to Title 42 RCW; creating a new section; and prescribing
6 penalties.

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

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** This act may be known and cited as the Eddie
9 Ryan public safety act of 2011.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1)(a) A governmental agency that purchases,
11 receives, possesses, uses, or issues a firearm must ensure that the
12 firearm includes or is accompanied with a firearms safety device or gun
13 safe that is identified as appropriate for that firearm by reference to
14 either the manufacturer or the model of the firearm.

15 (b) A government agent who receives, possesses, or uses a firearm
16 issued to the agent by the agency must ensure that the firearm includes
17 or is accompanied with a firearms safety device or gun safe that is

1 identified as appropriate for that firearm by reference to either the
2 manufacturer or the model of the firearm.

3 (c) A governmental agency or government agent has until July 31,
4 2014, to comply with the provisions of this chapter.

5 (2) All firearms safety devices and gun safes acquired under
6 subsection (1) of this section must meet the minimum standards for
7 firearms safety devices and gun safes as determined by the attorney
8 general.

9 (3)(a) The attorney general shall certify laboratories to verify
10 compliance with standards for firearms safety devices and gun safes.
11 The attorney general may charge any laboratory that is seeking
12 certification to test firearms safety devices or gun safes a fee not
13 exceeding the costs of certification.

14 (b) The certified laboratory shall, at the manufacturer's or
15 dealer's expense, test the firearms safety device or gun safe and
16 submit a copy of the final test report directly to the attorney general
17 along with the firearms safety device or gun safe. The attorney
18 general shall notify the manufacturer or dealer of its receipt of the
19 final test report and the attorney general's determination as to
20 whether the firearms safety device or gun safe tested may be sold or
21 transferred in this state for use by any governmental agency or
22 government agent in this state.

23 (c) By July 1, 2012, the attorney general shall compile, publish,
24 and thereafter maintain a roster listing all of the firearms safety
25 devices and gun safes that have been tested by a certified testing
26 laboratory, and have been determined to meet the attorney general's
27 standards for firearms safety devices or gun safes that may be sold in
28 this state for possession or use in this state by a governmental agency
29 or a government agent as issued by the agency. The roster shall list,
30 for each firearms safety device or gun safe, the manufacturer, model
31 number, and model name.

32 (d) The attorney general may randomly retest samples obtained from
33 sources other than directly from the manufacturer of the firearms
34 safety device or gun safe listed on the roster to ensure compliance
35 with the requirements of this section.

36 (4) Firearms safety devices and gun safes used for random sample
37 testing and obtained from sources other than the manufacturer shall be

1 in new, unused condition and still in the manufacturer's original and
2 unopened package.

3 (5) A gun safe must:

4 (a) Be able to fully contain firearms and provide for their secure
5 storage;

6 (b) Be capable of repeated use;

7 (c) Have a locking system consisting of at minimum a mechanical or
8 electronic combination lock. The mechanical or electronic combination
9 lock utilized by the safe shall have at least ten thousand possible
10 combinations consisting of a minimum three numbers, letters, or
11 symbols. The lock shall be protected by a case-hardened (Rc 60+)
12 drill-resistant steel plate, or drill-resistant material of equivalent
13 strength;

14 (d) Have boltwork that consists of a minimum of three steel locking
15 bolts of at least half an inch thickness that intrude from the door of
16 the safe into the body of the safe or from the body of the safe into
17 the door of the safe, which are operated by a separate handle and
18 secured by the lock;

19 (e) Have exterior walls constructed of a minimum twelve gauge thick
20 steel for a single-walled safe, or the sum of the steel walls add up to
21 at least .100 inches for safes with two walls, and have doors
22 constructed of a minimum of two layers of twelve gauge steel, or one
23 layer of seven gauge steel compound construction;

24 (f) Have door hinges that prevent the removal of the door, and
25 protective features that include, but are not limited to: Hinges not
26 exposed to the outside, interlocking door designs, dead bars, jeweler's
27 lugs, and active or inactive locking bolts.

28 (6) For purposes of this section:

29 (a) "Firearms safety device" means a device other than a gun safe
30 that locks and is designed to prevent children and unauthorized users
31 from firing a firearm. The device may be installed on a firearm, be
32 incorporated into the design of the firearm, or prevent access to the
33 firearm.

34 (b) "Gun safe" means a locking container that fully contains and
35 secures one or more firearms, and that meets the standards for gun
36 safes in subsection (5) of this section.

37 (7) A violation of subsection (1) of this section is a class C
38 felony.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Section 2 of this act constitutes a new
2 chapter in Title 42 RCW.

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