

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

S E N A T E - A S S E M B L Y

February 27, 2009

IN SENATE -- Introduced by Sens. ADAMS, KRUEGER, MONSERRATE, PARKER, SERRANO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Codes

IN ASSEMBLY -- Introduced by M. of A. ORTIZ, DIAZ, JEFFRIES, KOON, BENEDETTO, BROOK-KRASNY, BENJAMIN, DINOWITZ, CAMARA, SCHROEDER, CLARK, BOYLAND, HOOPER, PEOPLES, KAVANAGH -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. GOTTFRIED, LAVINE, MAISEL, MARKEY, McENENY, MILLMAN, O'DONNELL, PHEFFER, TOWNS, WEISENBERG -- read once and referred to the Committee on Codes

AN ACT to amend the general business law and the penal law, in relation to establishing a statewide database to maintain and track coded ammunition and establishing penalties for individuals who violate such provisions; and to amend the state finance law, in relation to establishing the ammunition coding system database fund

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. Legislative findings. The legislature hereby finds that  
2 each year in the United States more than thirty percent of all homicides  
3 involving a gun go unsolved. Handgun ammunition accounts for approxi-  
4 mately eighty percent of all ammunition sold within the United States.  
5 Current technology for matching a bullet used in a crime to the gun that  
6 fired it has worked moderately well for years, but presupposes that the  
7 weapon was recovered by law enforcement. Ammunition coding is a new and  
8 effective way for law enforcement to quickly identify persons of inter-  
9 est in gun crime investigations.  
10 S 2. The general business law is amended by adding a new section 396-  
11 gg to read as follows:  
12 S 396-GG. AMMUNITION CODING SYSTEM DATABASE. 1. THE DIVISION OF CRIMI-  
13 NAL JUSTICE SERVICES IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ESTABLISHING AND MAINTAINING AN

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

1 AMMUNITION CODING SYSTEM DATABASE CONTAINING INFORMATION FROM THE  
2 FOLLOWING:

3 A. THE MANUFACTURER REGISTRY. (I) EVERY MANUFACTURER SHALL REGISTER  
4 WITH THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES IN A MANNER PRESCRIBED BY  
5 THE DIVISION, AND SHALL MAINTAIN RECORDS ON THE BUSINESS PREMISES FOR A  
6 PERIOD OF SEVEN YEARS CONCERNING ALL SALES, LOANS, AND TRANSFERS OF  
7 AMMUNITION TO, FROM, OR WITHIN THE STATE.

8 (II) EVERY MANUFACTURER SHALL CODE ANY AMMUNITION FOR HANDGUNS AND  
9 ASSAULT WEAPONS SOLD OR MANUFACTURED AFTER JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND  
10 TEN.

11 B. THE VENDOR REGISTRY. EVERY VENDOR OF AMMUNITION SHALL REGISTER WITH  
12 THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES IN A MANNER PRESCRIBED BY THE  
13 DIVISION, AND SHALL RECORD THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN A FORMAT  
14 PRESCRIBED BY THE DIVISION:

15 (I) THE DATE OF THE TRANSACTION;

16 (II) THE NAME OF THE TRANSFEREE;

17 (III) THE PURCHASER'S DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER OR OTHER GOVERNMENT  
18 ISSUED IDENTIFICATION CARD NUMBER;

19 (IV) THE DATE OF BIRTH OF THE PURCHASER;

20 (V) THE UNIQUE IDENTIFIER OF ALL HANDGUN AMMUNITION OR BULLETS TRANS-  
21 FERRED; AND

22 (VI) ANY OTHER INFORMATION DETERMINED NECESSARY BY THE DIVISION.

23 EVERY VENDOR SHALL MAINTAIN THESE RECORDS ON THEIR PREMISES FOR A  
24 PERIOD OF AT LEAST THREE YEARS FROM THE DATE OF THE RECORDED PURCHASE.

25 2. TO THE GREATEST EXTENT POSSIBLE OR PRACTICAL, THE AMMUNITION CODING  
26 SYSTEM DATABASE SHALL BE BUILT WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF EXISTING FIREARMS  
27 DATABASES. THE AMMUNITION CODING SYSTEM DATABASE SHALL BE OPERATIONAL NO  
28 LATER THAN JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND ELEVEN.

29 3. PRIVACY OF INDIVIDUALS IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE. ACCESS TO  
30 INFORMATION IN THE AMMUNITION CODING SYSTEM DATABASE IS RESERVED FOR KEY  
31 LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL AND TO BE RELEASED ONLY IN CONNECTION WITH A  
32 CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION.

33 4. THE COST OF MAINTAINING THE DATABASE SHALL BE FUNDED BY THE AMMUNI-  
34 TION CODING SYSTEM DATABASE FUND ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION NINE-  
35 TY-ONE-H OF THE STATE FINANCE LAW. VENDORS SHALL CHARGE AN ADDITIONAL  
36 \$.005 PER BULLET OR ROUND OF AMMUNITION TO THE PURCHASER. SUCH MONEYS  
37 SHALL BE DEPOSITED INTO THE FUND.

38 5. ANY PERSON IN POSSESSION OF NON-CODED AMMUNITION MUST DISPOSE OF  
39 SUCH AMMUNITION NO LATER THAN JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND TWELVE.

40 6. A. ANY MANUFACTURER THAT WILLFULLY FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THE  
41 PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE SUBJECT TO A FINE OF UP TO ONE THOU-  
42 SAND DOLLARS FOR A FIRST OFFENSE; A FINE OF UP TO FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS  
43 FOR A SECOND OFFENSE; AND A FINE OF UP TO TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR A  
44 THIRD AND EACH SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE.

45 B. ANY VENDOR THAT WILLFULLY FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF  
46 THIS SECTION SHALL BE SUBJECT TO A FINE OF UP TO ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS  
47 FOR A FIRST OFFENSE; A FINE OF UP TO TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR A SECOND  
48 OFFENSE; AND A FINE OF UP TO FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR A THIRD AND EACH  
49 SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE. IN ADDITION TO ANY FINE IMPOSED PURSUANT TO THIS  
50 SECTION, A VENDOR MAY BE SUBJECT TO A TERM OF IMPRISONMENT OF LESS THAN  
51 ONE YEAR FOR EACH VIOLATION.

52 7. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "CODED AMMUNITION" MEANS A BULLET  
53 CARRYING A UNIQUE IDENTIFIER THAT HAS BEEN APPLIED BY ETCHING ONTO THE  
54 BASE OF THE BULLET PROJECTILE.

55 S 3. The penal law is amended by adding a new section 265.45 to read  
56 as follows:

1 S 265.45 UNLAWFUL SALE OR POSSESSION OF UNCODED AMMUNITION.

2 A PERSON IS GUILTY OF UNLAWFUL SALE OF UNCODED AMMUNITION WHEN HE OR  
3 SHE:

4 1. SELLS ANY AMMUNITION THAT HAS NOT BEEN CODED PURSUANT TO SECTION  
5 THREE HUNDRED NINETY-SIX-GG OF THE GENERAL BUSINESS LAW; OR

6 2. POSSESSES ANY AMMUNITION THAT IS UNCODED, OR THE CODE OF WHICH HAS  
7 BEEN RENDERED UNREADABLE.

8 UNLAWFUL SALE OR POSSESSION OF UNCODED AMMUNITION IS A CLASS A MISDE-  
9 MEANOR.

10 S 4. The state finance law is amended by adding a new section 91-h to  
11 read as follows:

12 S 91-H. AMMUNITION CODING SYSTEM DATABASE FUND. 1. THERE IS HEREBY  
13 CREATED IN THE JOINT CUSTODY OF THE COMPTROLLER AND THE COMMISSIONER OF  
14 TAXATION AND FINANCE, A FUND TO BE KNOWN AS THE AMMUNITION CODING SYSTEM  
15 DATABASE FUND.

16 2. THE FUND SHALL CONSIST OF ALL MONEYS COLLECTED PURSUANT TO SECTION  
17 THREE HUNDRED NINETY-SIX-GG OF THE GENERAL BUSINESS LAW, OR ANY OTHER  
18 MONEY APPROPRIATED TO THE FUND BY LAW.

19 3. THE MONEYS OF THE FUND SHALL BE USED TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN THE  
20 AMMUNITION CODING SYSTEM DATABASE CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION THREE  
21 HUNDRED NINETY-SIX-GG OF THE GENERAL BUSINESS LAW.

22 4. MONEYS SHALL BE PAYABLE FROM THE FUND ON THE AUDIT AND WARRANT OF  
23 THE STATE COMPTROLLER ON VOUCHERS APPROVED AND CERTIFIED BY THE DIRECTOR  
24 OF THE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES.

25 S 5. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall  
26 have become a law.