

By: Bernal

H.B. No. 479

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to requiring a licensed firearms dealer to report certain sales or transfers of multiple rifles to law enforcement; creating a criminal offense.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Title 6, Business & Commerce Code, is amended by adding Chapter 205 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 205. REPORTS OF CERTAIN MULTIPLE TRANSFERS OF RIFLES

SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 205.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Department" means the Department of Public Safety of the State of Texas.

(2) "Licensed firearms dealer" means a person who is licensed as a firearms dealer under 18 U.S.C. Section 923.

(3) "Rifle" has the meaning assigned by 18 U.S.C. Section 921. The term includes a semiautomatic rifle, as defined by that section.

SUBCHAPTER B. REQUIRED REPORTING OF CERTAIN MULTIPLE SALES OR TRANSFERS OF RIFLES

Sec. 205.051. REPORT BY LICENSED FIREARMS DEALER. (a) This section applies only to a sale or transfer of two or more rifles made to the same transferee, other than a licensed firearms dealer, on a single occasion or on more than one occasion during a period of five consecutive business days.

1 (b) A licensed firearms dealer shall report, in the form and
2 manner prescribed by the department, the multiple sales or
3 transfers described by Subsection (a) to:

4 (1) the department;

5 (2) if any of the applicable sales or transfers
6 occurred in a municipality, the police department of each
7 municipality in which the applicable sales or transfers occurred;
8 and

9 (3) if any of the applicable sales or transfers
10 occurred outside the boundaries of a municipality, the sheriff of
11 the county in which the applicable sales or transfers occurred.

12 Sec. 205.052. OFFENSE. (a) A licensed firearms dealer who
13 violates Section 205.051 commits an offense.

14 (b) An offense under this section is a Class A misdemeanor.

15 SECTION 2. Not later than September 1, 2025, the Department
16 of Public Safety shall develop the form for reporting multiple
17 rifle sales, as required by Section 205.051(b), Business & Commerce
18 Code, as added by this Act.

19 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies only
20 to the sale or transfer of a rifle that occurs on or after the
21 effective date of this Act. A sale or transfer of a rifle that
22 occurs before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law
23 in effect immediately before the effective date of this Act, and
24 that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

25 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.