

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 18.2-56.3, relating to firearm locking*
3 *device required for sale or transfer of firearm; warning against accessibility to children; penalty.*

4 [H 2064]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 18.2-56.3 as follows:**8 **§ 18.2-56.3. Firearm lock required for sale or transfer of firearm; child safety warning required;**
9 **penalty.**

10 A. As used in this section, "locking device" means (i) a device that, if installed on a firearm and secured
11 by means of a key or a mechanically, electronically, or electromechanically operated combination lock,
12 prevents the firearm from being discharged without first deactivating or removing the device by means of a
13 key or a mechanically, electronically, or electromechanically operated combination lock or (ii) a locking
14 mechanism incorporated into the design of a firearm that prevents discharge of the firearm by any person
15 who does not have access to the key or other device designed to unlock the mechanism and thereby allow
16 discharge of the firearm.

17 B. Except as provided in subsection C, it is unlawful for any licensed manufacturer, licensed importer, or
18 licensed dealer to sell, deliver, or transfer any firearm to any person other than a licensed manufacturer,
19 licensed importer, or licensed dealer unless the transferee is provided with a locking device for that firearm
20 and the firearm is accompanied by the following warning, which shall appear in conspicuous and legible type
21 in capital letters and which shall be printed on a separate sheet of paper included within the packaging
22 enclosing the firearm: THE USE OF A LOCKING DEVICE OR SAFETY LOCK IS ONLY ONE ASPECT OF
23 RESPONSIBLE FIREARM STORAGE. FIREARMS SHOULD BE STORED UNLOADED AND LOCKED IN
24 A LOCATION THAT IS BOTH SEPARATE FROM THEIR AMMUNITION AND INACCESSIBLE TO
25 CHILDREN. FAILURE TO PROPERLY LOCK AND STORE YOUR FIREARM MAY RESULT IN CIVIL OR
26 CRIMINAL LIABILITY.

27 C. This section shall not apply to (i) the manufacture for, transfer to, or possession by the Commonwealth
28 or the United States or a department or agency of the Commonwealth or the United States of a firearm or (ii)
29 the transfer to or possession by a law-enforcement officer employed by an entity referred to in clause (i) of a
30 firearm for law-enforcement purposes.

31 D. A violation of this section is punishable as a Class 3 misdemeanor.

ENROLLED

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