
Senate Fiscal Agency
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SFA**BILL ANALYSIS**

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Senate Bill 300 (as reported by the Committee of the Whole)
Sponsor: Senator Dave Jaye
Committee: Hunting, Fishing and Forestry

CONTENT

The bill would amend the handgun licensure Act to provide that a license for a pistol would be void unless it was used within 30 days after the date of issue. Currently, a license is void unless used within 10 days after its issue.

In addition, the bill would allow an individual who was a resident of the State to apply to the Department of State Police for a background check certificate to purchase pistols, rifles, and shotguns.

The bill specifies that an individual would have to obtain the application form provided by the Department from an organized police department of a city, village, or township or a county sheriff's department. An applicant would have to forward the completed application to the Department and, upon receiving the completed application, the Department would have to investigate the records available through the Law Enforcement Information Network and the National Instant Criminal Background Check System. If the investigation of the records revealed that the applicant was not prohibited from purchasing or possessing a firearm under any Federal or State law, the Department would have to issue the applicant a background check certificate. The certificate would be valid for three years from the date of issuance, and could be used by the applicant to purchase one or more firearms during the three-year period. An individual would not be required to obtain a certificate to purchase a single pistol in compliance with the Act or a single pistol, rifle, or shotgun, in compliance with Federal law.

MCL 28.422

Legislative Analyst: N. Nagata

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have a moderate fiscal impact on the Department of State Police. Under the bill, the Department would be responsible for checking and investigating the records of applicants for a background check certificate. However, responsibility for investigations pertaining to the purchase of rifles and shotguns would still be the duty of the Federal government. Though it is estimated that approximately 100,000 handguns and an equal number of rifles and shotguns are purchased each year in this State, the number of certificate background investigations required in a year cannot be determined. The bill also would require the Department to establish and maintain a certificate system.

Date Completed: 4-26-99

Fiscal Analyst: B. Baker