

A bill for an act

relating to public safety; requiring serial numbers for certain firearms; modifying the crime of possessing a firearm not identified by a serial number; authorizing rulemaking; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections 13.87, subdivision 2; 609.667; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 299C.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 13.87, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Firearms data.** (a) All data pertaining to the purchase or transfer of firearms and applications for permits to carry firearms which that are collected by government entities pursuant to sections 624.712 to 624.719 are is private, pursuant to section 13.02, subdivision 12.

(b) All data pertaining to firearm serial numbers assigned under section 299C.90 is private data on individuals or nonpublic data not on individuals, except that the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension shall disseminate the data pursuant to a request from a state or federal law enforcement agency for purposes of conducting a criminal investigation.

Sec. 2. **[299C.90] FIREARMS SERIAL NUMBER IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM.**

Subdivision 1. **Bureau's duty.** (a) The Bureau of Criminal Apprehension shall implement a system to assign unique serial numbers to firearms to facilitate the tracing of a firearm's ownership. The number must be assigned at the request of a person who owns, possesses, manufactures, or assembles a firearm. The bureau shall assign a serial number within 90 days of receiving a request to do so and may charge the person making the request a fee in an amount not to exceed the actual and reasonable cost of assigning the number.

(b) A request under paragraph (a) must include a description of the firearm; the person's full name, address, and date of birth; and any other information that the bureau deems appropriate.

(c) The system described in paragraph (a) must be operational by January 1, 2026.

Subd. 2. Data classification. Data related to serial numbers assigned under this section is classified in section 13.87, subdivision 2.

Subd. 3. Coordination with other entities. In implementing this section, the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension shall consult with the federal government and governmental entities of other states with independent requirements for serial numbers on firearms.

Subd. 4. Rulemaking. The Bureau of Criminal Apprehension may adopt rules to implement this section.

Subd. 5. Applicability. This section applies only to firearms that do not have a valid state or federal serial number already imprinted on the frame or receiver.

Sec. 3. [299C.91] FIREARMS SERIAL NUMBER REQUIREMENT.

Subdivision 1. Requirement. (a) A person may not own, possess, manufacture, or assemble a firearm after June 30, 2026, that does not have a serial number assigned under section 299C.90 or another valid state or federal serial number or other mark of identification imprinted on the frame or receiver.

(b) Before owning, possessing, manufacturing, or assembling a firearm after June 30, 2026, that does not have a serial number assigned under section 299C.90 or another valid state or federal serial number or mark of identification imprinted on the frame or receiver, a person must:

(1) apply to the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension for a serial number pursuant to section 299C.90;

(2) after the serial number is issued, have it engraved or otherwise permanently affixed to the firearm in a manner that meets or exceeds the requirements imposed on licensed importers and licensed manufacturers of firearms pursuant to United States Code, title 18, section 923, subsection (i), and applicable regulations;

(3) if the firearm is manufactured or assembled from polymer plastic, ensure that 3.7 ounces of material type 17-4 PH stainless steel is embedded within the plastic with the serial number engraved or otherwise permanently affixed in a manner that meets or exceeds the

requirements imposed on licensed importers and licensed manufacturers of firearms pursuant to United States Code, title 18, section 923, subsection (i), and applicable regulations; and

(4) after the serial number issued is engraved or otherwise permanently affixed to the firearm, notify the bureau of that fact in a manner and within a time period specified by the bureau, and with sufficient information to identify the owner of the firearm, the serial number provided by the bureau, and the firearm in a manner prescribed by the bureau.

Subd. 2. **Violations.** A violation of this section is punishable under section 609.667.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 609.667, is amended to read:

609.667 FIREARMS; REMOVAL OR ALTERATION OF SERIAL NUMBER.

Whoever commits any of the following acts may be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than five years or to payment of a fine of not more than \$10,000, or both:

(1) obliterates, removes, changes, or alters the serial number or other identification of a firearm;

(2) receives or possesses a firearm, the serial number or other identification of which has been obliterated, removed, changed, or altered; or

(3) receives or possesses a firearm that is not identified by a serial number or other identification.

As used in this section, "serial number or other identification" means the serial number and, if applicable, other information required under: (1) United States Code, title 26, section 5842; (2) United States Code, title 18, section 923; (3) section 299C.91; or (4) the law of any other state, for the identification of firearms.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2026, and applies to crimes committed after that date.

Sec. 5. APPROPRIATION.

\$..... is appropriated to the commissioner of public safety from the general fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, to implement this act.