HOUSE CONSUMER AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL 114

56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2024

AN ACT

RELATING TO TRADE PRACTICES; ENACTING THE FIREARM INDUSTRY ACCOUNTABILITY ACT; REQUIRING REASONABLE CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES; PROVIDING FOR A PUBLIC NUISANCE WHEN FIREARM INDUSTRY MEMBERS FAIL TO EXERCISE REASONABLE CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES; PROVIDING PRIVATE REMEDIES; PROVIDING A CIVIL PENALTY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. [NEW MATERIAL] SHORT TITLE.--This act may be cited as the "Firearm Industry Accountability Act".

SECTION 2. [NEW MATERIAL] DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Firearm Industry Accountability Act:

A. "firearm" means a weapon that is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosion or the frame or receiver of any such weapon,

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including a handgun, rifle or shotgun;

- B. "firearm industry member" means a person engaged in the sale, manufacturing, making, importing, distribution, advertising or marketing of a firearm product; and
- C. "firearm product" means a firearm, firearm component, firearm accessory, ammunition or any other product sold for use as part of a firearm that is:
- (1) sold, made, manufactured, distributed, advertised or marketed in this state;
- (2) intended to be sold, made, manufactured, distributed, advertised or marketed in this state; or
- (3) possessed or used in this state or that is likely to be possessed or used in this state.
- SECTION 3. [NEW MATERIAL] REASONABLE CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES REQUIRED.--A firearm industry member shall establish and implement reasonable controls and procedures regarding the sale, manufacturing, making, importing, distribution, use, advertising and marketing of a firearm product to:
- A. prevent the loss or theft of a firearm product from a firearm industry member;
- B. ensure that a firearm industry member complies with the provisions of federal and state laws and does not promote the unlawful sale, manufacturing, making, importing, distribution, use, advertising or marketing of a firearm product; and

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- C. prevent the unlawful or fraudulent sale or distribution of a firearm product to a person who:
- (1) conceals or intends to conceal that the purchase of a firearm product is being made on behalf of a third party, including a firearm product purchase made in exchange for services or something of value, and not including a bona fide gift to a person who is not prohibited by law from possessing or receiving a firearm product;
- (2) acquires or transfers or who attempts to acquire or transfer a firearm product for purposes of unlawful commerce;
- (3) is prohibited from possessing a firearm under federal or state law; or
- (4) a firearm industry member has reasonable cause to believe is at risk of using a firearm product to cause imminent harm to the person's self or others.
- SECTION 4. [NEW MATERIAL] FAILURE TO EXERCISE REASONABLE
 CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES AS A PUBLIC NUISANCE--REMEDIES FOR
 VIOLATIONS--CIVIL PENALTIES--PRIVATE REMEDIES.--
- A. It is a public nuisance for a firearm industry member to knowingly or recklessly fail to exercise reasonable controls and procedures regarding the sale, manufacturing, making, importing, distribution, use, advertising and marketing of a firearm product.
- B. The attorney general or a district attorney may .227484.1

bring a civil action by verified complaint to abate a public nuisance described in this section. In such an action, the court may abate the nuisance and also may award a civil penalty to the state not exceeding five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each violation of this section.

- C. A private citizen may bring a civil action by verified complaint to abate a public nuisance described in this section. A private citizen may also bring a civil action to recover actual or punitive damages against a firearm industry member as a result of a failure to exercise reasonable controls and procedures regarding the sale, manufacturing, making, importing, distribution, use, advertising and marketing of a firearm product. The court shall award costs and reasonable attorney fees to a private citizen who prevails in establishing a violation of this section.
- D. The relief provided in this section is in addition to remedies otherwise available against the same conduct under federal and state law.
- E. Documentary material relating to the establishment and implementation of reasonable controls and procedures regarding the sale, manufacturing, making, importing, distribution, use, advertising and marketing of a firearm product in the possession of a firearm industry member shall be made available for inspection upon written demand of the attorney general or a district attorney.

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