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Maryland's Responsible Gun Safety Act of 2000

Concise Summary

In April, 2000 Maryland Governor Parris Glendening signed into law *The Responsible Gun Safety Act of 2000* (HB 279/SB 211). The legislation includes requirements for:

- External safety locks on handguns manufactured on or before December 31, 2002 and sold by dealers;
- Integrated mechanical safety devices built into handguns manufactured after December 31, 2002 and sold by dealers with exceptions for sales to the federal government, law enforcement and out-of-state customers;
- Annual review and report on the status of personalized gun technology by an expanded Handgun Roster Board, two members of whom are designated to be mechanical or electrical engineers;
- Certified firearm safety training courses to be completed by handgun purchasers after January 1, 2002, with exemptions for certain persons;
- Maryland dealers to send manufacturer-provided shell casings to State police when handguns are sold;
- A Cease Fire Council in the State Police Department to administer grants for innovative gun violence reduction initiatives;
- A mandatory minimum sentence of five years without parole for illegal possession of a firearm by a person previously convicted of a crime or violence;
- Prohibition against possessing handguns by those convicted of a felony or any misdemeanor with a statutory penalty of more than two years, and by those under the age of 30 who have previously been adjudicated delinquent by a juvenile court for a violent crime; and
- Denial of permits to carry concealed handguns to former violent juvenile delinquents and those convicted of drug related offenses or those determined to have a propensity to be violent or unstable.

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