

CONCURRENCE IN SENATE AMENDMENTS

AB 2847 (Chiu and Gabriel)

As Amended July 2, 2020

Majority vote

SUMMARY:

Requires commencing July 1, 2022 all semiautomatic pistols not already listed on the Department of Justice (DOJ) roster of not unsafe handguns be equipped with chamber load indicators, magazine disconnect mechanisms, and microstamping technology.

The Senate Amendments

Make a minor change to the bill's legislative findings and declarations.

COMMENTS:**According to the Author:**

"This bill strengthens California's Unsafe Handgun Act (UHA) to ensure that new firearms are introduced that incorporate microstamping technology and comply with the UHA's other safety requirements.

"AB 2847 eases compliance by requiring that newly developed semiautomatic pistol models etch microstamping characters on one place on the interior of the firearm, as opposed to two as currently required. Additionally, AB 2847 furthers implementation of the new UHA requirements by directing the Attorney General to remove three previously grandfathered handgun models from the roster for each new compliant handgun model that is introduced.

"Microstamping technology will significantly improve law enforcement's ability to identify shooters and gun traffickers, apprehend them before they do more harm, and hold them accountable. Incorporating other UHA design safety standards in more handguns sold in California would also help prevent accidental shootings

Arguments in Support:

Brady United Against Gun Violence states, "The gun industry has acknowledged that microstamping is entirely feasible, but has maintained that it is not possible to microstamp two separate places on the interior of the firearm as is the current mandate under the Unsafe Handgun Act (UHA). Although it is entirely practicable to have two engravings, it is not necessary. One engraving on the firing pin of a firearm reliable provides law enforcement the available and necessary information concerning the gun. AB 2847 therefore eases this requirement by mandating that newly developed semiautomatic pistol models engrave microstamping characters on just one place on the interior of the firearm, the firing pin, as opposed to two. Gun manufacturers can easily and affordably comply with this mandate as well as the other important UHA quality and safety standards.

"Additionally, AB 2847 furthers implementation of the UHA requirements by directing the Attorney General to remove three previously grandfathered handgun models from the roster of certified handguns that may be manufactured and sold in California, for each new compliant handgun model that is introduced. This will guarantee a progressive movement towards ensuring

that one day all firearms in California will be in compliance with the important and life-saving standards outlined in the UHA.

"In short, the microstamping mandate in AB 2847 will significantly improve law enforcement's ability to identify shooters and gun traffickers, apprehend them before they do more harm, and hold them accountable. Also, AB 2847 will ensure that more, and eventually all, handguns sold in CA will comply with the other important UHA design safety standards on a rolling basis. These standards work to prevent unintentional shootings and will protect California consumers."

Arguments in Opposition:

The *California Sportsman's Lobby* argues, "AB 2847 would substantially reduce the number of 'not unsafe' pistols presently available to California sportsmen to buy, is opposed by the California Sportsman's Lobby.

"It would do so, commencing July 1, 2022, by requiring that new pistols added to the states, 'not unsafe' handgun roster possess microstamping technology in centerfire pistols that would imprint the make, model, and serial number in one place on empty cartridge casings from ammunition discharged from the pistol; a chamber load indicator for centerfire semiautomatic pistols; and, a magazine disconnect feature that would prevent discharge of the firearm if its detachable magazine is removed for both centerfire and rimfire semiautomatic pistols.

"The bill would require the removal of three models of semiautomatic pistols now on the roster of 'not unsafe' handguns if they lack one or more of the above features each time a new model is added.

"The models currently on the roster are popular, not unsafe, and should continue to be available to sportsmen and other lawful individuals regardless of whether new models are added. If the new models that comply with the requirements of AB 2847 are added to the roster, the current list of pistols that sportsmen and others can buy will eventually be reduced by two-thirds, even though such models are not unsafe."

FISCAL COMMENTS:

According to the Senate Appropriations Committee, costs to DOJ in the hundreds of thousands of dollars annually for two to five years to, in part, promulgate regulations prompted by this measure and, potentially, related to IT system changes and litigation. (General Fund, special funds*)

*Firearms Safety and Enforcement Special Fund & Firearm Safety Account

VOTES:

ASM PUBLIC SAFETY: 6-1-1

YES: Jones-Sawyer, Bauer-Kahan, Kamlager, Carrillo, Santiago, Wicks

NO: Lackey

ABS, ABST OR NV: Diep

ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 13-4-1

YES: Gonzalez, Bauer-Kahan, Bloom, Bonta, Calderon, Carrillo, Chau, Eggman, Gabriel, Eduardo Garcia, Petrie-Norris, McCarty, Robert Rivas

NO: Bigelow, Megan Dahle, Fong, Voepel

ABS, ABST OR NV: Diep

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 52-20-7

YES: Aguiar-Curry, Arambula, Bauer-Kahan, Berman, Bloom, Boerner Horvath, Bonta, Burke, Calderon, Carrillo, Chau, Chiu, Chu, Daly, Eggman, Friedman, Gabriel, Cristina Garcia, Eduardo Garcia, Gipson, Gloria, Gonzalez, Grayson, Holden, Irwin, Jones-Sawyer, Kara, Kamlager, Levine, Limón, Low, Maienschein, McCarty, Medina, Mullin, Muratsuchi, Nazarian, O'Donnell, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Reyes, Luz Rivas, Robert Rivas, Blanca Rubio, Santiago, Smith, Mark Stone, Ting, Weber, Wicks, Wood, Rendon

NO: Bigelow, Brough, Chen, Choi, Cunningham, Megan Dahle, Flora, Fong, Frazier, Gallagher, Gray, Kiley, Lackey, Mathis, Mayes, Obernolte, Patterson, Salas, Voepel, Waldron

ABS, ABST OR NV: Cervantes, Cooley, Cooper, Diep, Quirk, Ramos, Rodriguez

SENATE FLOOR: 25-12-3

YES: Allen, Archuleta, Atkins, Beall, Bradford, Dodd, Durazo, Glazer, Lena Gonzalez, Hertzberg, Hill, Hueso, Jackson, Leyva, McGuire, Mitchell, Monning, Pan, Portantino, Rubio, Skinner, Stern, Umberg, Wieckowski, Wiener

NO: Bates, Borgeas, Caballero, Chang, Dahle, Grove, Hurtado, Melendez, Moorlach, Morrell, Nielsen, Wilk

ABS, ABST OR NV: Galgiani, Jones, Roth

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