
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 1743 (Wicks) - Firearms

Version: June 4, 2026

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: June 29, 2026

Policy Vote: PUB. S. 5 - 1

Mandate: No

Consultant: Bob Franzoia

Bill Summary: AB 1743 would require the Department of Justice (DOJ) to make identification and tracing information for illegal firearms available under conditions set forth by the Attorney General.

Fiscal Impact: Significant costs annually to the DOJ Firearms Records Unit within the Division of Law Enforcement to process firearm data requests, provide subject matter expertise, and perform research, formatting and validating of data for accuracy.

Significant costs annually to the DOJ Office of General Counsel for legal, information security and research services (General Fund).

Background: AB 1191 (McCarty), Chapter 683/2021 required DOJ to analyze patterns and trends relating to recovered firearms that have been illegally possessed, used in a crime, or suspected to have been used in a crime, including the leading sources and origins of those firearms. DOJ is required to maintain this information for a period of at least 10 years, make the information available, under guidelines set forth by the Attorney General, for academic and policy research purposes, and report its findings.

In its July 2025 report, DOJ found that in 2024, approximately one third of crime guns recovered had a prior sale or transaction record confirmed in the Automated Firearms System (AFS) and over one quarter of crime guns could be traced to a specific dealer in the state. Thus, most crime guns reported to DOJ have no record of sale in the AFS. These include firearms that were acquired in illegal sales, imported illegally, manufactured in the state as unserialized ghost guns or not subject to transaction reports.

Proposed Law: This bill would require that the information shall be available, upon request, to the University of California, the California State University, or an accredited, nonprofit private postsecondary educational institution pursuant to format options set forth by the Attorney General, for academic and policy research purposes.

This information shall be available, upon request, to any town, city, county, or state government agency within the state under the conditions and pursuant to format options set forth by the Attorney General.