
UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill No: SB 1220
Author: Hurtado (D)
Introduced: 2/19/26
Vote: 21

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 5-1, 4/7/26
AYES: Arreguín, Caballero, Cortese, Pérez, Wiener
NOES: Seyarto

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: 5-2, 5/14/26
AYES: Cervantes, Cabaldon, Grayson, Richardson, Wahab
NOES: Seyarto, Dahle

SENATE FLOOR: 30-8, 5/27/26
AYES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Hurtado, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern, Umberg, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener
NOES: Alvarado-Gil, Choi, Grove, Jones, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto, Strickland
NO VOTE RECORDED: Dahle, Valladares

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: Passed, 8/24/26

SUBJECT: Firearms: prohibited persons

SOURCE: California Police Chiefs Association

DIGEST: This bill imposes a 10-year prohibition on the purchase or possession of firearms for individuals convicted of buying, receiving, selling, or possessing a firearm that has had specified identifying marks or engravings illegally modified or removed.

Assembly Amendments resolve chaptering conflicts.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Provides that any person who has been convicted of a felony under the laws of the United States, the State of California, or any other state, government, or country, or of an offense involving the violent use of a firearm or who is addicted to the use of any narcotic drug, and who owns, purchases, receives, or has in possession or under custody or control any firearm is guilty of a felony. (Penal [Pen.] Code, § 29800, subd. (a)(1).)
- 2) Provides that any person who has two or more specified convictions related to making criminal threats and who owns, purchases, receives, or has in possession or under custody or control any firearm is guilty of a felony. (Pen. Code, § 29800, subd. (a)(2).)
- 3) Provides that any person who has an outstanding warrant for any offense listed in this subdivision and who has knowledge of the outstanding warrant, and who owns, purchases, receives, or has in possession or under custody or control any firearm is guilty of a felony. (Pen. Code, § 29800, subd. (a)(3).)
- 4) Provides that persons convicted of specified serious or violent misdemeanors are prohibited from possession of firearms for a period of 10 years and that a violation of that prohibition is punishable as a misdemeanor with imprisonment up to one year or as a state prison felony. (Pen. Code, § 29805, subd. (a).)
- 5) Includes within the list of misdemeanors triggering a 10-year firearm prohibition the crimes of stalking, sexual battery, assault with a deadly weapon, battery with serious bodily injury, brandishing a firearm of deadly weapon, assault with force likely to produce great bodily injury, battery on a peace officer, corporal injury to spouse, cohabitant or fellow parent, child abuse, elder abuse, unsafe storage of a firearm, threats of bodily injury or death, as well as specified crimes related to undetectable firearms, unserialized firearms, computer numerical control (CNC) milling machines, 3d printers used to manufacture firearms, assault weapons, .50 BMG rifles, multiburst trigger activators, and other firearms, among other misdemeanors. (Pen. Code, § 29805, subds. (a), (h).)
- 6) Provides that persons with the knowledge that they have an outstanding warrant for any of the specified serious or violent misdemeanors that result in a 10-year prohibition are guilty of a crime if they possess a firearm while the warrant is

outstanding. Provides that a violation is punishable as a misdemeanor, with imprisonment up to one year, or as a state prison felony. (Pen. Code, §§ 29805, subd. (a), 29851.)

- 7) Requires any person subject to a firearm prohibition based on a conviction of a felony or specified misdemeanor to relinquish any firearms they own, possess or have under their control or custody within 48 hours if the defendant is out of custody or within 14 days if the defendant is in custody. (Pen. Code, § 29810, subd. (a).)
- 8) Contains an exception to the 10-year firearm ban based on a conviction of specified misdemeanors for individuals who took the firearm from someone committing a crime against them and delivered it to law enforcement. (Pen. Code, § 29850.)
- 9) Authorizes specified peace officers who have been convicted of a specified misdemeanor subject to a 10-year firearm prohibition to petition for relief. Requires the court, in deciding the petition, to consider the petitioner's continued employment, the interest of justice, any relevant evidence, whether the petitioner is otherwise not prohibited, and the totality of the circumstances. (Pen. Code, § 29855.)
- 10) Permits any person convicted of a specified misdemeanor, before that misdemeanor was added to the list of misdemeanors triggering a 10-year prohibition, to petition for relief. Requires the court, in deciding the petition, to ensure the petitioner is not otherwise prohibited, and may consider the interest of justice, any relevant evidence, and the totality of the circumstances. (Pen. Code, § 29860.)
- 11) Requires the Attorney General to establish and maintain an online database to be known as the Prohibited Armed Persons File; the purpose of which is to cross-reference persons who have ownership or possession of a firearm on or after January 1, 1996, as indicated by a record in the Consolidated Firearms Information System, and who, subsequent to the date of that ownership or possession of a firearm, fall within a class of persons who are prohibited from owning or possessing a firearm. (Pen. Code, § 30000 (a).)
- 12) Provides that, except as provided, any person who, with knowledge of any change, alteration, removal or obliteration of a specified identifying mark on a firearm, buys, receives, disposes of, sells, offers for sale, or has in possession

any pistol, revolver, or other firearm that has had the name of the maker or model, or the manufacturer's number or other mark of identification, including any distinguishing number or mark assigned by the Department of Justice (DOJ), changed, altered, removed, or obliterated (hereinafter, an "unserialized firearm") is guilty of a misdemeanor. (Pen. Code, § 23920, subd. (a).)

13) Specifies that the above prohibition does not apply to any of the following:

- a) The acquisition or possession of an unserialized firearm by any member of the military forces of California or the United States, while on duty and acting within the scope and course of employment.
- b) The acquisition or possession of an unserialized firearm by any peace officer while on duty and acting within the scope and course of employment.
- c) The acquisition or possession of an unserialized firearm by any employee of a forensic laboratory, while on duty and acting within the scope and course of employment.
- d) A person possessing and transporting the unserialized firearm to a law enforcement agency for disposition by that agency, as specified. (Pen. Code, § 23925, subd. (a).)

This bill provides that any person who is convicted of knowingly possessing, purchasing, receiving, selling or offering for sale an unserialized firearm in violation of Penal Code Section 23920 subdivision (a) shall not own, purchase, receive or have in their possession any firearm for a period of 10 years, a violation of which is punishable as an aggravated misdemeanor.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: Yes

According to the Assembly Appropriations Committee:

Costs of an unknown amount, likely in excess of this committee's threshold, to the Department of Justice (DOJ) to investigate and enforce the new prohibition through the Armed and Prohibited Persons System (APPS) (General Fund, Dealers Record of Sale Special Account). By adding another qualifying offense, the bill will add individuals to the APPS database and increase the associated review, investigation, and firearm-seizure workload. As of January 1, 2026, the APPS database contained 27,199 armed and prohibited persons, including 10,893 active

cases and 16,306 pending cases; the bill would contribute an incremental, currently unquantifiable number of additional cases beginning in 2027. The DOJ was unable to provide an estimate of costs at the time of this analysis.

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/24/26)

California Police Chiefs Association (source)
City of Alameda
Los Angeles County District Attorneys Office

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/24/26)

California Rifle and Pistol Association

Prepared by: Alex Barnett / PUB. S. /
8/24/26 16:37:25

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