

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 19, 2025

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 10, 2025

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 28, 2025

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2025–26 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1127

**Introduced by Assembly Members Gabriel and Stefani
(Principal coauthors: Assembly Members Gipson and Wicks)
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Bauer-Kahan, Berman, Bryan,
Connolly, Mark González, Kalra, Ortega, Petrie-Norris, and
Quirk-Silva)**

February 20, 2025

An act to amend Section 3273.50 of the Civil Code, and to amend Section 16880 of, and to add Sections 16885, 17015, 27595, and 27595.1 to, the Penal Code, relating to firearms.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1127, as amended, Gabriel. Firearms: converter pistols.

Existing law prohibits any person from selling, leasing, or transferring any firearm unless the person is licensed as a firearms dealer, as specified. Existing law prescribes certain requirements and prohibitions for licensed firearms dealers. A violation of any of these requirements or prohibitions is grounds for forfeiture of a firearms dealer's license. For purposes of these provisions, existing law defines "machinegun" to mean, among other definitions, any weapon that shoots or is designed to shoot automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger.

This bill would prohibit a licensed firearms dealer to sell, offer for sale, exchange, give, transfer, or deliver any semiautomatic

machinegun-convertible pistol, except as specified. For these purposes, the bill would define “machinegun-convertible pistol” as any semiautomatic pistol with a cruciform trigger bar that can be readily converted by hand or with common household tools into a machinegun by the installation or attachment of a pistol converter, as specified, and “pistol converter” as any device or instrument that, when installed in or attached to the rear of the slide of a semiautomatic pistol, replaces the backplate and interferes with the trigger mechanism and thereby enables the pistol to shoot automatically more than one shot by a single function of the trigger. The bill would make a violation of these provisions punishable by a fine, a 2nd violation punishable by a fine that may result in a suspension or revocation of the dealer’s license and removal from certain centralized lists maintained by the Department of Justice, and a 3rd violation punishable as a misdemeanor that shall result in the revocation of the dealer’s license and removal from certain centralized lists.

Existing law prohibits the manufacture, sale, possession, or transportation of a machinegun, except as authorized. A violation of these prohibitions is punishable as a felony.

This bill would expand the above definition of “machinegun” to include any machinegun-convertible pistol equipped with a pistol converter and, thus, prohibit the manufacture, sale, possession, or transportation of a machinegun-convertible pistol equipped with a pistol converter.

This bill would make these provisions severable.

By creating a new crime and expanding the application of an existing crime, this bill would create a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
 State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 3273.50 of the Civil Code is amended
- 2 to read:
- 3 3273.50. As used in this title, the following definitions apply:

1 (a) “Ammunition” has the same meaning as provided in
2 subdivision (b) of Section 16150 of the Penal Code.

3 (b) “Firearm” has the same meaning as provided in subdivisions
4 (a) and (b) of Section 16520 of the Penal Code.

5 (c) “Firearm accessory” means an attachment or device designed
6 or adapted to be inserted into, affixed onto, or used in conjunction
7 with a firearm that is designed, intended, or functions to alter or
8 enhance the firing capabilities of a firearm, the lethality of the
9 firearm, or a shooter’s ability to hold and use a firearm.

10 (d) “Firearm-related product” means a firearm, ammunition, a
11 firearm precursor part, a firearm component, firearm manufacturing
12 machine, and a firearm accessory that meets any of the following
13 conditions:

14 (1) The item is sold, made, or distributed in California.

15 (2) The item is intended to be sold or distributed in California.

16 (3) The item is or was possessed in California and it was
17 reasonably foreseeable that the item would be possessed in
18 California.

19 (e) “Firearm precursor part” has the same meaning as provided
20 in Section 16531 of the Penal Code.

21 (f) “Firearm industry member” shall mean a person, firm,
22 corporation, company, partnership, society, joint stock company,
23 or any other entity or association engaged in the manufacture,
24 distribution, importation, marketing, wholesale sale, or retail sale
25 of firearm-related products.

26 (g) “Firearm manufacturing machine” means a three-dimensional
27 printer, as defined in Section 29185 of the Penal Code, or CNC
28 milling machine that, as described in that section, is marketed or
29 sold as, or reasonably designed or intended to be used to
30 manufacture or produce a firearm.

31 (h) “Reasonable controls” means reasonable procedures, acts,
32 or practices that are designed, implemented, and enforced to do
33 the following:

34 (1) Prevent the sale or distribution of a firearm-related product
35 to a straw purchaser, a firearm trafficker, a person prohibited from
36 possessing a firearm under state or federal law, or a person who
37 the firearm industry member has reasonable cause to believe is at
38 substantial risk of using a firearm-related product to harm
39 themselves or another or of possessing or using a firearm-related
40 product unlawfully.

1 (2) Prevent the loss or theft of a firearm-related product from
2 the firearm industry member.

3 (3) Ensure that the firearm industry member complies with all
4 provisions of California and federal law and does not otherwise
5 promote the unlawful manufacture, sale, possession, marketing,
6 or use of a firearm-related product.

7 (4) Prevent the installation and use of a pistol converter, as
8 defined in Section 17015 of the Penal Code, with a firearm.

9 SEC. 2. Section 16880 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

10 16880. (a) As used in this part, “machinegun” means any
11 weapon that shoots, is designed to shoot, or can readily be restored
12 to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual
13 reloading, by a single function of the trigger.

14 (b) The term “machinegun” also includes the frame or receiver
15 of any weapon described in subdivision (a), any part designed and
16 intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts designed
17 and intended, for use in converting a weapon into a machinegun,
18 and any combination of parts from which a machinegun can be
19 assembled if those parts are in the possession or under the control
20 of a person.

21 (c) The term “machinegun” also includes any weapon deemed
22 by the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and
23 Explosives as readily convertible to a machinegun under Chapter
24 53 (commencing with Section 5801) of Title 26 of the United
25 States Code.

26 (d) The term “machinegun” also includes any
27 machinegun-convertible pistol equipped with a pistol converter,
28 as defined in Section 17015.

29 SEC. 3. Section 16885 is added to the Penal Code, to read:

30 16885. (a) As used in this part, “machinegun-convertible
31 pistol” means any semiautomatic pistol with a cruciform trigger
32 bar that can be readily converted by hand or with common
33 household tools, as defined in ~~11 C.C.R. 4082~~, *Section 4082 of*
34 *Title 11 of the California Code of Regulations*, into a machinegun
35 by the installation or attachment of a pistol converter as a
36 replacement for the slide’s backplate without any additional
37 engineering, machining, or modification of the pistol’s trigger
38 mechanism.

39 (b) ~~Machinegun-convertible pistols do~~ A
40 *machinegun-convertible pistol does* not include a hammer-fired

1 semiautomatic pistol or striker-fired semiautomatic pistol lacking
2 a cruciform trigger ~~bars, bar~~, which instead ~~have~~ *has a trigger* ~~bars~~
3 *bar* that ~~are~~ *is* shielded from interference by a pistol converter.

4 (c) A polymer notch or other piece of polymer molded into the
5 rear of the pistol frame does not prevent ready conversion into a
6 machinegun and will not prevent a pistol from qualifying under
7 this definition.

8 SEC. 4. Section 17015 is added to the Penal Code, to read:

9 17015. “Pistol converter” means any device or instrument that
10 when installed in or attached to the rear of the slide of a
11 semiautomatic pistol, replaces the backplate, and interferes with
12 the trigger mechanism and thereby enables the pistol to shoot
13 automatically more than one shot by a single function of the trigger.
14 *A pistol converter includes, but is not limited to, a pistol converter*
15 *manufactured using a three-dimensional printer, as defined in*
16 *Section 29185.*

17 SEC. 5. Section 27595 is added to the Penal Code, to read:

18 27595. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (c), commencing
19 on January 1, 2026, a firearms dealer licensed pursuant to Sections
20 26700 to 26920, shall not sell, offer for sale, exchange, give,
21 transfer, or deliver any semiautomatic machinegun-convertible
22 pistol, as defined in Section ~~16415~~. *16885.*

23 (b) (1) A violation of subdivision (a) shall be punishable by a
24 fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

25 (2) A second violation of subdivision (a) shall be punishable
26 by a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) and may
27 result in the suspension or revocation of the dealer’s license issued
28 under Sections 26700 to 26920, inclusive, and removal of the
29 firearms dealer from any centralized list maintained by the
30 Department of Justice pursuant to Sections 26715, 28450, and
31 29060.

32 (3) A third violation of subdivision (a) is a misdemeanor and
33 shall result in the revocation of the dealer’s license issued under
34 Sections 26700 to 26920, inclusive, and removal of the firearms
35 dealer from any centralized list maintained by the Department
36 pursuant to Sections 26715, 28450, and 29060.

37 (c) This section shall not apply to any of the following:

38 (1) A machinegun-convertible pistol delivered to a firearms
39 dealer prior to January 1, 2026.

1 (2) The sale of a machinegun-convertible pistol to a police
2 department, sheriff's office, *probation department*, marshal's
3 office, district attorney's office, the California Highway Patrol,
4 the Department of Justice, the Department of Corrections and
5 Rehabilitation, or the military or naval forces of this state or of the
6 United States for use in the discharge of their official duties.

7 (3) A private party to private party transaction conducted
8 through a licensed firearms dealer pursuant to Chapter 5
9 (commencing with Section 28050).

10 (4) A transfer of a *machinegun-convertible pistol* to a gunsmith
11 or other qualified entity for service or repair.

12 (5) The sale or transfer of a *machinegun-convertible pistol* to a
13 firearms dealer licensed pursuant to Sections 26700 to 26920,
14 inclusive, or to federally licensed firearms manufacturers or dealers
15 outside California.

16 (6) A transfer of a ~~firearm~~ *machinegun-convertible pistol* back
17 to a private party after temporary safekeeping storage pursuant to
18 Section 26892.

19 (7) A transfer of a ~~firearm~~ *machinegun-convertible pistol* back
20 to a private party after a period of temporary prohibition pursuant
21 to Section 29830.

22 (8) A transfer of a *machinegun-convertible pistol* to any forensic
23 laboratory or forensic laboratory employee, while on duty and
24 acting within the scope and course of employment.

25 SEC. 6. Section 27595.1 is added to the Penal Code, to read:

26 27595.1. The Department of Justice is authorized to adopt
27 regulations to implement Section 27595. Regulations adopted
28 pursuant to Section 27595 are exempt from the Administrative
29 Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of
30 Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code).

31 SEC. 7. If any section, subsection, sentence, or clause of this
32 act is for any reason declared unconstitutional, invalid, or
33 unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision
34 shall not affect the constitutionality, validity, or enforceability of
35 the remaining portions of this act or any part thereof. The
36 Legislature hereby declares that it would have adopted this act
37 notwithstanding the unconstitutionality, invalidity, or
38 unenforceability of any one or more of its sections, subsections,
39 sentences, or clauses.

1 SEC. 8. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to
2 Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because
3 the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school
4 district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or
5 infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty
6 for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of
7 the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within
8 the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California
9 Constitution.

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