

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)
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Mark González)**

February 20, 2025

An act to amend Section 3273.50 of the Civil Code, and to amend Section 16880 of, and to add Sections ~~16415, 16885, 17015, and 27595~~ 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 ~~convertible~~ *machinegun-convertible* pistol, except as specified. For these purposes, the bill would define ~~"convertible~~ "*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 solely by the installation or attachment of a ~~pistol-converter~~ *converter, as specified*, and “pistol converter” as any device or instrument ~~that~~ *that*, when installed in or attached to the *rear of the* slide of a semiautomatic ~~pistol~~ *pistol*, *replaces the backplate and* interferes with the trigger mechanism and thereby enables the pistol to ~~discharge a number of shots or bullets rapidly or automatically with one continuous pull of the trigger.~~ *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, 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. 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 ~~convertible~~ *machinegun-convertible* pistol equipped with a pistol converter and, thus, prohibit the manufacture, sale, possession, or transportation of a ~~convertible~~ *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 16415 is added to the Penal Code, to read:~~

10 ~~16415. As used in this part, “convertible pistol” means any~~
11 ~~semiautomatic pistol that can be converted into a machinegun~~
12 ~~solely by the installation or attachment of a pistol converter.~~

13 ~~SEC. 3.~~

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

15 16880. (a) As used in this part, “machinegun” means any
16 weapon that shoots, is designed to shoot, or can readily be restored
17 to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual
18 reloading, by a single function of the trigger.

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

26 (c) The term “machinegun” also includes any weapon deemed
27 by the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and
28 Explosives as readily convertible to a machinegun under Chapter
29 53 (commencing with Section 5801) of Title 26 of the United
30 States Code.

31 (d) The term “machinegun” also includes any ~~convertible~~
32 *machinegun-convertible* pistol equipped with a pistol converter,
33 as defined in Section 17015.

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

35 *16885. (a) As used in this part, “machinegun-convertible*
36 *pistol” means any semiautomatic pistol with a cruciform trigger*
37 *bar that can be readily converted by hand or with common*
38 *household tools, as defined in 11 C.C.R 4082, into a machinegun*
39 *by the installation or attachment of a pistol converter as a*
40 *replacement for the slide’s backplate without any additional*

1 *engineering, machining, or modification of the pistol's trigger*
2 *mechanism.*

3 *(b) Machinegun-convertible pistols do not include a*
4 *hammer-fired semiautomatic pistol or striker-fired semiautomatic*
5 *pistol lacking cruciform trigger bars, which instead have trigger*
6 *bars that are shielded from interference by a pistol converter.*

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

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

12 17015. "Pistol converter" means any device or instrument that
13 when installed in or attached to the *rear of the slide of a*
14 *semiautomatic pistol* ~~pistol~~, *replaces the backplate, and* interferes
15 with the trigger mechanism and thereby enables the pistol to
16 ~~discharge a number of shots or bullets rapidly or automatically~~
17 ~~with one continuous pull of the trigger.~~ *shoot automatically more*
18 *than one shot by a single function of the trigger.*

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

20 27595. (a) ~~(1) Commencing on January 1, 2026, it shall be~~
21 ~~unlawful for~~ *Except as provided in subdivision (c), commencing*
22 *on January 1, 2026, a firearms dealer licensed pursuant to Sections*
23 *26700 to 26920, inclusive, to shall not* sell, offer for sale, exchange,
24 give, transfer, or deliver any semiautomatic ~~convertible pistol.~~
25 *machinegun-convertible pistol, as defined in Section 16415.*

26 ~~(2) A dealer shall be in compliance with this section if the dealer~~
27 ~~relies in good faith on a written certification made by the pistol's~~
28 ~~manufacturer or the Department of Justice that the pistol is not a~~
29 ~~convertible pistol, as defined in Section 16415.~~

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

32 (2) A second violation of subdivision (a) shall be punishable
33 by a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) and may
34 result in the *suspension or* revocation of the dealer's license issued
35 under Sections 26700 to 26920, ~~inclusive.~~ *inclusive, and removal*
36 *of the firearms dealer from any centralized list maintained by the*
37 *Department of Justice pursuant to Sections 26715, 28450, and*
38 *29060.*

39 (3) A third violation of subdivision (a) is a misdemeanor and
40 shall result in the revocation of the dealer's license issued under

1 Sections 26700 to 26920, ~~inclusive~~: *inclusive, and removal of the*
 2 *firearms dealer from any centralized list maintained by the*
 3 *Department pursuant to Sections 26715, 28450, and 29060.*

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

5 (1) A ~~convertible machinegun-convertible~~ pistol ~~manufactured~~
 6 ~~or~~ delivered to a firearms dealer prior to January 1, 2026.

7 (2) The sale of a ~~convertible machinegun-convertible~~ pistol to
 8 a police department, sheriff’s office, marshal’s office, district
 9 attorney’s office, the California Highway Patrol, the Department
 10 of Justice, the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, or
 11 the military or naval forces of this state or of the United States for
 12 use in the discharge of their official duties.

13 (3) A private party to private party transaction conducted
 14 through a licensed firearms dealer pursuant to Chapter 5
 15 (commencing with Section 28050).

16 (4) *A transfer to a gunsmith or other qualified entity for service*
 17 *or repair.*

18 (5) *The sale or transfer to a firearms dealer licensed pursuant*
 19 *to Sections 26700 to 26920, inclusive, or to federally licensed*
 20 *firearms manufacturers or dealers outside California.*

21 (6) *A transfer of a firearm back to a private party after*
 22 *temporary safekeeping storage pursuant to Section 26892.*

23 (7) *A transfer of a firearm back to a private party after a period*
 24 *of temporary prohibition pursuant to Section 29830.*

25 (8) *A transfer to any forensic laboratory or forensic laboratory*
 26 *employee, while on duty and acting within the scope and course*
 27 *of employment.*

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

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

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

1 *unenforceability of any one or more of its sections, subsections,*
2 *sentences, or clauses.*

3 ~~SEC. 6.~~

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

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