

# A Bill to Make America Safer by Registering Private Firearms

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**SECTION 1.** The United States federal government will modify the ATF National Tracing Center database to establish a searchable electronic gun registration database to track private gun ownership in the United States.

**SECTION 2.** A searchable electronic gun registration database is defined as an electronic database that identifies such information as model, serial number, ballistics, and owner of a firearm and that is accessible and searchable by law enforcement.

**SECTION 3.** This bill will be implemented and enforced by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms

A. ATF will be given a one-time grant of \$10 million from the budget of the US Department of Justice to facilitate the expansion of the NTC database to include additional information on each gun, incorporate yearly gun registrations, and make the database more easily searchable and accessible for law enforcement.

B. All guns currently in private ownership must be registered or forfeited to ATF within one year of implementation to avoid legal consequences.

C. After implementation, gun owners will be required to renew the registration on a yearly basis. ATF may charge a reasonable

21 registration and renewal fee to cover costs of maintaining the  
22 database.

23 D. Registration must be transferred to the new owner when ownership  
24 of the gun is transferred. The former owner must notify the ATF of  
25 the sale, and the new owner must register the gun in his or her name  
26 to be in compliance with this law.

27 E. In the event of the theft of a firearm, the former owner must notify  
28 law enforcement within 48 hours or face prosecution for the illegal  
29 sale of a firearm.

30 F. Failure to register a firearm or notify ATF of the transfer of ownership  
31 of a firearm may result in seizure of the gun and either fines no less  
32 than \$1000 but no more than \$10,000 per unregistered firearm or up  
33 to 5 years in prison per unregistered firearm.

34 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on January 1, 2020 with the database to be  
35 completed within 3 years of implementation.

36 **SECTION 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Ankeny High School*