

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8118

To prohibit the purchase, ownership, or possession of enhanced body armor
by civilians, with exceptions.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 16, 2022

Ms. MENG (for herself, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CARSON, Ms. DEAN, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. TITUS, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Mr. MORELLE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To prohibit the purchase, ownership, or possession of
enhanced body armor by civilians, with exceptions.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Aaron Salter, Jr., Re-
5 sponsible Body Armor Possession Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. BAN ON PURCHASE, OWNERSHIP, OR POSSESSION**
2 **OF ENHANCED BODY ARMOR BY CIVILIANS;**
3 **EXCEPTIONS.**

4 (a) BAN.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 44 of title 18,
6 United States Code, is amended by adding at the
7 end the following:

8 **“§ 932. Ban on purchase, ownership, or possession of**
9 **enhanced body armor by civilians**

10 “(a) Except as provided in subsection (b), it shall be
11 unlawful for a person to purchase, own, or possess en-
12 hanced body armor.

13 “(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to—

14 “(1) a purchase, ownership, or possession by or
15 under the authority of—

16 “(A) the United States or any department
17 or agency of the United States; or

18 “(B) a State, or a department, agency, or
19 political subdivision of a State;

20 “(2) a covered law enforcement officer; or

21 “(3) enhanced body armor that was lawfully
22 possessed by any person at any time before the date
23 this section takes effect.

24 “(c) In this section, the term ‘covered law enforce-
25 ment officer’—

1 “(1) has the meaning given the term ‘qualified
2 law enforcement officer’ in section 926B and the
3 term ‘qualified retired law enforcement officer’ in
4 section 926C; and

5 “(2) includes corrections officers.”.

6 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
7 tions for chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code,
8 is amended by adding at the end the following:

“932. Ban on purchase, ownership, or possession of enhanced body armor by
civilians.”.

9 (b) ENHANCED BODY ARMOR DEFINED.—Section
10 921(a) of such title is amended by adding at the end the
11 following:

12 “(36) The term ‘enhanced body armor’ means
13 body armor, including a helmet or shield, the bal-
14 listic resistance of which meets or exceeds the bal-
15 listic performance of Type III armor, determined
16 using such standard as the National Institute of
17 Justice has in effect at the time at which a person
18 purchases, owns, or possesses such armor.”.

19 (c) PENALTIES.—Section 924(a) of such title is
20 amended by adding at the end the following:

21 “(8) Whoever knowingly violates section 932
22 shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more
23 than 10 years, or both.”.

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