

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9983

To amend title 18, United States Code, to protect more victims of domestic violence by preventing their abusers from possessing or receiving firearms, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 30, 2026

Mr. HIMES (for himself, Ms. NORTON, Ms. ROSS, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. LYNCH, and Mr. BEYER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to protect more victims of domestic violence by preventing their abusers from possessing or receiving firearms, and for other purposes.

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 “Lori Jackson-Nicolette
5 Elias Domestic Violence Survivor Protection Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Congress has the responsibility to keep the
2 populace of the United States safe, and domestic
3 gun violence is a significant threat to the well-being
4 of the United States.

5 (2) Each year in the United States, more than
6 900 women are shot and killed by an intimate part-
7 ner. More women are killed in the United States by
8 domestic partners than by any other type of assail-
9 ant, and most of these homicides are committed with
10 firearms.

11 (3) Nearly 6,000,000 women alive in the United
12 States today report having a gun used on them by
13 a domestic partner.

14 (4) Seven in 10 intimate partner homicides in
15 the United States are committed with a firearm. If
16 a woman has an abusive male partner who has ac-
17 cess to a firearm, the woman is 5 times more likely
18 to be killed than she would be if the abusive male
19 partner did not have access to a firearm.

20 (5) Perpetrators of intimate partner violence
21 are far more likely to commit additional acts of gun
22 violence. Nearly half of all mass shootings involve
23 the perpetrator shooting a current or former inti-
24 mate partner or family member.

1 (6) Victims of intimate partner violence often
2 pursue restraining orders as a means of protection
3 in the immediate aftermath of, or in conjunction
4 with, leaving dangerous partners and situations.
5 This time period is especially dangerous for victims.

6 (7) Although individuals against whom there is
7 a domestic violence restraining order are barred
8 from purchasing a firearm under section 922(g)(8)
9 of title 18, United States Code, various loopholes in
10 that section allow perpetrators to purchase and
11 maintain possession of firearms. For example, Fed-
12 eral law only protects domestic violence victims
13 against spouses, former spouses, cohabitants, former
14 cohabitants, and individuals with whom those vic-
15 tims have a child. Furthermore, under Federal law,
16 protective orders issued against domestic violence
17 abusers on an emergency or ex parte basis do not
18 prohibit those abusers from possessing or purchasing
19 firearms.

20 (8) Some States and local governments have
21 passed laws that go beyond the Federal baseline by
22 expanding the range of abusive partners included in
23 firearm restrictions to encompass abusive dating
24 partners. Numerous studies have shown that States

1 that pass these laws experience a significant reduc-
2 tion in intimate partner homicides.

3 (9) States that restrict access to guns to indi-
4 viduals subject to active domestic violence restrain-
5 ing orders have experienced a 13-percent reduction
6 in intimate partner homicides involving firearms.
7 Similarly, State laws imposing a firearm possession
8 prohibition on individuals subject to ex parte or tem-
9 porary domestic violence restraining orders are asso-
10 ciated with a 16 percent reduction in intimate part-
11 ner homicides involving firearms.

12 (10) Congress has the power to set a national
13 standard to protect domestic violence victims who
14 seek restraining orders against abusive partners by
15 preventing those abusive partners from possessing or
16 purchasing firearms and ammunition while the re-
17 straining order is in effect.

18 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS OF “INTIMATE PARTNER”AND “MIS-**
19 **DEMEANOR CRIME OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE”**
20 **EXPANDED.**

21 Section 921(a) of title 18, United States Code, is
22 amended—

23 (1) by inserting before paragraph (32) the fol-
24 lowing:

1 “(31) The term ‘covered domestic violence court
2 order’ means a court order—

3 “(A) that was issued—

4 “(i) after a hearing of which the per-
5 son subject to the court order received ac-
6 tual notice, and at which such person had
7 an opportunity to participate; or

8 “(ii) in the case of an ex parte order,
9 relative to which notice and opportunity to
10 be heard are provided—

11 “(I) within the time required by
12 State, tribal, or territorial law; and

13 “(II) in any event within a rea-
14 sonable time after the order is issued,
15 sufficient to protect the due process
16 rights of the person;

17 “(B) that restrains such person from—

18 “(i) harassing, stalking, or threat-
19 ening an intimate partner of such person
20 or child of such intimate partner or person,
21 or engaging in other conduct that would
22 place an intimate partner in reasonable
23 fear of bodily injury to the partner or
24 child; or

1 “(ii) intimidating or dissuading a wit-
2 ness from testifying in court; and

3 “(C) that—

4 “(i) includes a finding that such per-
5 son represents a credible threat to the
6 physical safety of an individual described
7 in subparagraph (B); or

8 “(ii) by its terms explicitly prohibits
9 the use, attempted use, or threatened use
10 of physical force against an individual de-
11 scribed in subparagraph (B) that would
12 reasonably be expected to cause bodily in-
13 jury.”;

14 (2) in paragraph (32), by striking all that fol-
15 lows after “The term ‘intimate partner’ ” and insert-
16 ing the following:

17 “(A) means, with respect to a person, the
18 spouse of the person, a former spouse of the
19 person, an individual who is a parent of a child
20 of the person, and an individual who cohabi-
21 tates or has cohabited with the person; and

22 “(B) includes—

23 “(i) a dating partner (as defined in
24 section 2266) or former dating partner;
25 and

“(ii) any other person similarly situated to a spouse, a parent of a child, or dating partner who is protected by the domestic or family violence laws of the State, local, or tribal jurisdiction in the covered domestic violence court order was issued or where the protected party resides.”; and

(3) in paragraph (33)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)(ii)—

(i) by striking “or the threatened” and inserting “the threatened”;

(ii) by inserting “or stalking” after “deadly weapon,”; and

(iii) by striking “, or by a person who has a current or recent former dating relationship with the victim” and inserting “by a person to whom the victim is or was a dating partner (as defined in section 2266), or by a person to whom the victim is the child of a dating partner”; and

(B) in subparagraph (C), by striking “firearms: *Provided*,” and all that follows through the end and inserting “firearms.”.

1 **SEC. 4. UNLAWFUL SALE OF FIREARM TO A PERSON SUB-**
 2 **JECT TO COURT ORDER.**

3 Section 922(d)(8) of title 18, United States Code, is
 4 amended to read as follows:

5 “(8) is subject to a covered domestic violence
 6 court order; or”.

7 **SEC. 5. LIST OF PERSONS SUBJECT TO A RESTRAINING OR**
 8 **SIMILAR ORDER PROHIBITED FROM POS-**
 9 **SESSING OR RECEIVING A FIREARM EX-**
 10 **PANDED.**

11 Section 922(g)(8) of title 18, United States Code, is
 12 amended to read as follows:

13 “(8) who is subject to a covered domestic vio-
 14 lence court order; or”.

15 **SEC. 6. GRANT PROGRAM REGARDING THE REMOVAL OF**
 16 **FIREARMS FROM ADJUDICATED DOMESTIC**
 17 **VIOLENCE PARTIES.**

18 (a) AMENDMENT.—Title I of the Omnibus Crime
 19 Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10101
 20 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

21 **“PART PP—GRANT PROGRAM REGARDING RE-**
 22 **MOVAL OF FIREARMS FROM ADJUDICATED**
 23 **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PARTIES**

24 **“SEC. 3061. DEFINITIONS.**

25 “In this part:

1 “(1) AMMUNITION; FIREARM.—The terms ‘am-
2 munition’ and ‘firearm’ have the meanings given
3 those terms in section 921 of title 18, United States
4 Code.

5 “(2) COVERED ENTITY.—The term ‘covered en-
6 tity’ means—

7 “(A) a State;

8 “(B) an Indian tribe; or

9 “(C) a unit of local government.

10 “(3) DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROTECTION
11 ORDER.—The term ‘domestic violence protection
12 order’ has the meaning given the term ‘covered do-
13 mestic violence court order’ in section 921 of title
14 18, United States Code.

15 **“SEC. 3062. GRANT PROGRAM.**

16 “(a) AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS.—The Attorney
17 General, acting through the Director of the Office on Vio-
18 lence Against Women, may make grants to covered enti-
19 ties to assist the covered entities in carrying out the poli-
20 cies, procedures, protocols, laws, court rules, or regula-
21 tions described in section 3063.

22 “(b) ELIGIBLE COVERED ENTITY.—

23 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A covered entity shall be
24 eligible to receive a grant under this section on and
25 after the date on which the Attorney General deter-

1 mines that the covered entity has in effect policies,
2 procedures, protocols, laws, court rules, or regula-
3 tions that are substantially similar to the policies,
4 procedures, laws, court rules, or regulations de-
5 scribed in section 3063.

6 “(2) DETERMINATION.—In making a deter-
7 mination under paragraph (1), the Attorney General
8 may consider policies, procedures, protocols, laws,
9 court rules, or regulations of a covered entity to be
10 substantially similar to the policies, procedures,
11 laws, courts rules, or regulations described in section
12 3063 even if the policies, procedures, protocols, laws,
13 court rules, or regulations of the covered entity—

14 “(A) vary in scope;

15 “(B) prescribe different types of protective
16 orders or firearm surrender orders; or

17 “(C) provide different timing requirements.

18 “(c) USE OF FUNDS.—Grant funds awarded under
19 this section may be used by a covered entity—

20 “(1) to assist law enforcement agencies or
21 courts of the covered entity in carrying out the poli-
22 cies, procedures, protocols, laws, court rules, or reg-
23 ulations described in section 3063, including the
24 storage of firearms and ammunition; and

1 “(2) in order to ensure the safety of domestic
2 violence victims after a domestic violence protection
3 order is issued in accordance with the policies, pro-
4 cedures, protocols, laws, court rules, or regulations
5 described in section 3063, to partner with and pro-
6 vide support to not less than 1 domestic violence vic-
7 tim service provider, which may include an organiza-
8 tion that is a culturally specific organization.

9 “(d) APPLICATION.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A covered entity desiring a
11 grant under this section shall submit to the Attorney
12 General an application at such time, in such man-
13 ner, and containing or accompanied by such infor-
14 mation as the Attorney General may reasonably re-
15 quire.

16 “(2) CONTENTS.—An application submitted
17 under this subsection shall include a description of
18 an action plan of the covered entity to establish a
19 partnership described in subsection (c)(2).

20 **“SEC. 3063. STATE AND TRIBAL POLICIES AND PROCE-**
21 **DURES.**

22 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The policies, procedures, proto-
23 cols, laws, court rules, or regulations described in this sec-
24 tion are policies, procedures, protocols, laws, court rules,

1 or regulations relating to the possession of a firearm or
2 ammunition that—

3 “(1) direct a court, upon the issuance of a do-
4 mestic violence protection order, to include relief or
5 issue an additional order (referred to in this section
6 as a ‘firearm surrender order’) that—

7 “(A) is in effect for the duration of the do-
8 mestic violence protection order;

9 “(B) automatically terminates upon the ex-
10 piration of the domestic violence protection
11 order;

12 “(C) requires—

13 “(i) the individual subject to the do-
14 mestic violence protection order or firearm
15 surrender order to, not later than 24 hours
16 after the domestic violence protection order
17 or firearm surrender order is served, sur-
18 render physical possession of all firearms
19 and ammunition in the possession, care,
20 custody, or control of the individual, in-
21 cluding any firearm that the individual has
22 entrusted or lent to a third party, by ei-
23 ther—

24 “(I) surrendering the firearms
25 and ammunition to the chief law en-

1 enforcement officer of the district in
2 which the individual resides or a law
3 enforcement agency designated by the
4 State or Indian tribe to receive and
5 store firearms and ammunition; or

6 “(II) selling the firearms and
7 ammunition to a licensed dealer (as
8 defined 32 in section 921 of title 18,
9 United States Code); or

10 “(ii) the chief law enforcement officer
11 of the district in which the individual re-
12 sides or a law enforcement agency des-
13 ignated by the State or Indian tribe to re-
14 ceive and store firearms and ammunition
15 to, not later than 24 hours after the do-
16 mestic violence protection order or firearm
17 surrender order is served, request the sur-
18 render of and remove and store any fire-
19 arm or ammunition in the possession, care,
20 custody, or control of the individual, in-
21 cluding firearms and ammunition that the
22 individual has entrusted or lent to a third
23 party;

24 “(D) prohibits the individual from pur-
25 chasing, possessing, or receiving, or attempting

1 to purchase or receive, a firearm or ammunition
2 for the period of time during which the domes-
3 tic violence protection order or firearm sur-
4 render order is in effect;

5 “(E) revokes any permit or license of the
6 individual to purchase, possess, or carry a fire-
7 arm or ammunition for the period of time dur-
8 ing which the domestic violence protection order
9 or firearm surrender order is in effect; and

10 “(F) requires the individual subject to the
11 domestic violence protection order or firearm
12 surrender order to, not later than 48 hours
13 after the domestic violence protection order or
14 firearm surrender order is served, file with the
15 court—

16 “(i) a declaration under penalty of
17 perjury that—

18 “(I) the individual has made the
19 surrender described in subparagraph
20 (C)(i);

21 “(II) the chief law enforcement
22 officer of the district in which the in-
23 dividual resides has conducted the re-
24 moval described in subparagraph
25 (C)(ii); or

1 “(III) the individual did not pos-
2 sess any firearm or ammunition at the
3 time of the issuance and service of the
4 domestic violence protection order or
5 firearm surrender order and continues
6 to not possess any firearms or ammu-
7 nition; and

8 “(ii) an itemized receipt of any fire-
9 arms or ammunition surrendered by the
10 individual subject to the domestic violence
11 protection order or firearm surrender order
12 under subparagraph (C)(i), or removed by
13 a chief law enforcement officer from that
14 individual under subparagraph (C)(ii), that
15 is signed by the individual who took pos-
16 session of those firearms or ammunition;

17 “(2) in the case of an individual who does not
18 comply with paragraph (1)(C)(i), and where there
19 are reasonable grounds to believe that the individual
20 possesses or has purchased a firearm, require the
21 chief law enforcement officer or designated law en-
22 forcement agency described in paragraph (1)(C)(ii)
23 to remove any firearm or ammunition from the indi-
24 vidual;

1 “(3) requires a chief law enforcement officer or
2 designated law enforcement agency that conducts a
3 removal under paragraph (1)(C)(ii) or (2) or re-
4 ceives a firearm or ammunition surrendered by an
5 individual under paragraph (1)(C)(i)(I) to, not later
6 than 48 hours after conducting the removal or re-
7 ceiving the surrendered firearm or ammunition, no-
8 tify the court of the removal or surrender;

9 “(4) with respect to a firearm or ammunition
10 that is surrendered under paragraph (1)(C)(i) or
11 any firearm or ammunition removed under para-
12 graph (1)(C)(ii) or (2), require the law enforcement
13 agency to which the firearm or ammunition is sur-
14 rendered or that removes any firearm or ammunition
15 to—

16 “(A) safely store the firearm or ammuni-
17 tion, including with federally licensed firearms
18 dealers; and

19 “(B) at the request of the individual sub-
20 ject to the domestic violence protection order or
21 firearm surrender order, not later than 7 days
22 after the request, if the domestic violence pro-
23 tection order described in paragraph (1) has ex-
24 pired or been removed—

1 “(i) perform a background check on
2 the individual previously subject to the do-
3 mestic violence protection order or firearm
4 surrender order to determine whether the
5 individual is prohibited from possessing or
6 receiving a firearm under Federal, State,
7 tribal, or local law; and

8 “(ii) return the firearm or ammuni-
9 tion to the individual previously subject to
10 the domestic violence protection order or
11 firearm surrender order if the individual is
12 not prohibited from possessing or receiving
13 a firearm under Federal, State, tribal, or
14 local law; and

15 “(5) require the courts and relevant law en-
16 forcement agencies to partner with and provide sup-
17 port for local domestic violence programs in order to
18 ensure the safety of victims of domestic violence
19 after the issuance of a domestic violence protection
20 order or firearm surrender order.

21 “(b) APPLICABILITY.—Except as otherwise provided
22 in this section, the definitions and grant conditions set
23 forth in section 40002 of the Violence Against Women Act
24 of 1994 (34 U.S.C. 12291) shall apply to this section.”.

1 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
 2 1001(a) of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe
 3 Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10261) is amended by
 4 adding at the end the following:

5 “(29) There are authorized to be appropriated
 6 such sums as are necessary to carry out part PP.”.

7 **SEC. 7. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

8 The NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007
 9 (34 U.S.C. 40902 et seq.) is amended—

10 (1) in section 3(1) (34 U.S.C. 40903(1)), by
 11 striking “court order (as described in section
 12 922(g)(8)” and inserting “covered domestic violence
 13 court order (as defined in section 921(a)”; and

14 (2) in section 102(b)(1)(C)(v) (34 U.S.C.
 15 40912(b)(1)(C)(v)), by striking “court order de-
 16 scribed in section 922(g)(8)” and inserting “covered
 17 domestic violence court order, as defined in section
 18 921(a)”.

○