

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1349

To regulate handgun ammunition, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 16, 1997

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To regulate handgun ammunition, 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 “Ammunition Safety
5 Act of 1997”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEALERS OF AMMUNITION.**

7 (a) DEFINITION.—Section 921(a)(11)(A) of title 18,
8 United States Code, is amended by inserting “or ammuni-
9 tion” after “firearms”.

10 (b) LICENSING.—Section 923(a) of title 18, United
11 States Code, is amended—

1 (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1) by
2 striking “or importing or manufacturing ammuni-
3 tion” and inserting “or importing, manufacturing, or
4 dealing in ammunition”; and

5 (2) in paragraph (3)—

6 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “or”
7 the last place it appears;

8 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the
9 period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

10 (C) by inserting the following new subpara-
11 graph:

12 “(C) in ammunition other than ammunition for
13 destructive devices, \$10 per year.”.

14 (c) UNLAWFUL ACTS.—Section 922(a)(1)(A) of title
15 18, United States Code, is amended—

16 (1) in paragraph (1)—

17 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

18 (i) by inserting “or ammunition” after
19 “firearms”; and

20 (ii) by inserting “or ammunition”
21 after “firearm”; and

22 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “or
23 licensed manufacturer” and inserting “licensed
24 manufacturer, or licensed dealer”;

1 (2) in paragraph (2), in the matter preceding
2 subparagraph (A), by inserting “or ammunition”
3 after “firearm”;

4 (3) in paragraph (3), by inserting “or ammunition” after “firearm” the first place it appears;

6 (4) in paragraph (5), by inserting “or ammunition” after “firearm” the first place it appears; and

8 (5) in paragraph (9), by inserting “or ammunition” after “firearms”.

10 (d) PENALTIES.—Section 924 of title 18, United
11 States Code, is amended—

12 (1) in paragraph (6)—

13 (A) in subparagraph (A)(i), by striking “1
14 year” and inserting “2 years”; and

15 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

16 (i) in clause (i), by striking “1 year”
17 and inserting “2 years”; and

18 (ii) in clause (ii), by striking “10
19 years” and inserting “20 years”; and

20 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
21 section:

22 “(o) Except to the extent a greater minimum sen-
23 tence is otherwise provided, any person at least 18 years
24 of age who violates section 922(g) shall be subject to—

1 “(1) twice the maximum punishment authorized
2 by this subsection; and

3 “(2) at least twice any term of supervised re-
4 lease.”.

5 (e) APPLICATION OF BRADY HANDGUN VIOLENCE
6 PREVENTION ACT TO TRANSFER OF AMMUNITION.—Sec-
7 tion 922(t) of title 18, United States Code, is amended
8 by inserting “or ammunition” after “firearm” each place
9 it appears.

10 **SEC. 3. REGULATION OF ARMOR PIERCING AND NEW TYPES**
11 **OF DESTRUCTIVE AMMUNITION.**

12 (a) TESTING OF AMMUNITION.—Section 921(a)(17)
13 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at
14 the end the following new subparagraph:

15 “(D)(i) Notwithstanding subchapter II of chapter 5
16 of title 5, United States Code, not later than 1 year after
17 the date of enactment of this subparagraph, the Secretary
18 shall—

19 “(I) establish uniform standards for testing and
20 rating the destructive capacity of projectiles capable
21 of being used in handguns;

22 “(II) utilizing the standards established pursu-
23 ant to subclause (I), establish performance-based
24 standards to define the rating of ‘armor piercing

1 ammunition’ based on the rating at which the pro-
2 jectiles pierce armor; and

3 “(III) at the expense of the ammunition manu-
4 facturer seeking to sell a particular type of ammuni-
5 tion, test and rate the destructive capacity of the
6 ammunition utilizing the testing, rating, and per-
7 formance-based standards established under sub-
8 clauses (I) and (II).

9 “(ii) The term ‘armor piercing ammunition’ shall in-
10 clude any projectile determined to have a destructive ca-
11 pacity rating higher than the rating threshold established
12 under subclause (II), in addition to the composition-based
13 determination of subparagraph (B).

14 “(iii) The Congress may exempt specific ammunition
15 designed for sporting purposes from the definition of
16 ‘armor piercing ammunition’.”.

17 (b) PROHIBITION.—Section 922(a) of title 18, United
18 States Code, is amended—

19 (1) in paragraph (7)—

20 (A) by striking “or import” and inserting
21 “, import, possess, or use”;

22 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking
23 “and”;

24 (C) in subparagraph (C), by striking the
25 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

1 (D) by adding at the end the following new
2 subparagraph:

3 “(D) the manufacture, importation, or use
4 of any projectile that has been proven, by test-
5 ing performed at the expense of the manufac-
6 turer of the projectile, to have a lower rating
7 threshold than armor piercing ammunition.”;
8 and
9 (2) in paragraph (8)—

10 (A) in subparagraph (B), by striking
11 “and”;

12 (B) in subparagraph (C), by striking the
13 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

14 (C) by adding at the end the following new
15 subparagraph:

16 “(D) the manufacture, importation, or use
17 of any projectile that has been proven, by test-
18 ing performed at the expense of the manufac-
19 turer of the projectile, to have a lower rating
20 threshold than armor piercing ammunition.”.

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