S. 967

To provide a uniform national standard to ensure that concealed firearms are available only to authorized persons for lawful purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

May 5, 1999

Mr. Lautenberg introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To provide a uniform national standard to ensure that concealed firearms are available only to authorized persons for lawful 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 "Concealed Firearms
- 5 Prohibition Act".
- 6 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.
- 7 Congress finds that—
- 8 (1) crimes committed with firearms threaten
- 9 the peace and domestic tranquility of the United

- 1 States and reduce the security and general welfare 2 of the people of the United States;
- 3 (2) crimes committed with firearms impose a 4 substantial burden on interstate commerce and lead 5 to a reduction in productivity and profitability for 6 businesses around the country whose workers, sup-7 pliers, and customers are adversely affected by gun 8 violence;
 - (3) the public carrying of firearms increases the level of gun violence by enabling the rapid escalation of otherwise minor conflicts into deadly shootings;
 - (4) the public carrying of firearms increases the likelihood that incompetent or careless firearm users will accidently injure or kill innocent bystanders;
 - (5) the public carrying of firearms poses a danger to citizens of the United States who travel across State lines for business or other purposes; and
- 19 (6) all Americans have a right to be protected 20 from the dangers posed by the carrying of concealed 21 firearms, regardless of their State of residence.
- 22 SEC. 3. UNLAWFUL ACT.

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- Section 922 of title 18, United States Code, is
- 24 amended by inserting after subsection (y) the following:
- 25 "(z) Firearms.—

| 1 | "(1) In general.—Except as provided in para- |
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| 2 | graph (2), it shall be unlawful for a person to carry |
| 3 | a firearm, any part of which has been transported |
| 4 | in interstate or foreign commerce, on his or her per- |
| 5 | son in public. |
| 6 | "(2) Exceptions.—Paragraph (1) does not |
| 7 | apply to— |
| 8 | "(A) a person authorized to carry a fire- |
| 9 | arm under State law who is— |
| 10 | "(i) a law enforcement official; |
| 11 | "(ii) a retired law enforcement offi- |
| 12 | cial; |
| 13 | "(iii) a duly authorized private secu- |
| 14 | rity officer; |
| 15 | "(iv) a person whose employment in- |
| 16 | volves the transport of substantial amounts |
| 17 | of cash or other valuable items; or |
| 18 | "(v) any other person that the Attor- |
| 19 | ney General determines should be allowed |
| 20 | to carry a firearm because of compelling |
| 21 | circumstances, under regulations that the |
| 22 | Attorney General may promulgate; |
| 23 | "(B) a person authorized to carry a fire- |
| 24 | arm under a State law that permits a person to |
| 25 | carry a firearm based on an individualized de- |

| 1 | termination, based on a review of credible evi- |
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| 2 | dence, that the person should be allowed to |
| 3 | carry a firearm because of compelling cir- |
| 4 | cumstances (not including a claim of concern |
| 5 | about generalized or unspecified risks); or |
| 6 | "(C) a person authorized to carry a fire- |
| 7 | arm on his or her person under Federal law. |
| 8 | "(3) Effect on other laws.— |
| 9 | "(A) FEDERAL LAWS.—Nothing in this |
| 10 | subsection supersedes or limits any other Fed- |
| 11 | eral law (including a regulation) that prohibits |
| 12 | or restricts the possession or transportation of |
| 13 | a firearm. |
| 14 | "(B) STATE AND LOCAL LAWS.—Nothing |
| 15 | in this subsection supersedes or limits any law |
| 16 | (including a regulation) of a State or political |
| 17 | subdivision of a State that— |
| 18 | "(i) grants a right to carry a con- |
| 19 | cealed firearm that is more restrictive than |
| 20 | a right granted under this subsection; |
| 21 | "(ii) permits a private person or enti- |
| 22 | ty to prohibit or restrict the possession of |
| 23 | a concealed firearm on property belonging |
| 24 | to the person: |

| 1 | "(iii) prohibits or restricts the posses- |
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| 2 | sion of a firearm on any property, installa- |
| 3 | tion, building, facility, or park belonging to |
| 4 | a State or political subdivision of a State; |
| 5 | Ol° |
| 6 | "(iv) permits a person to— |
| 7 | "(I) transport a lawfully-owned |
| 8 | and lawfully-secured firearm in a vehi- |
| 9 | cle for hunting or sporting purposes; |
| 10 | or |
| 11 | "(II) use a lawfully-owned fire- |
| 12 | arm for hunting or sporting pur- |
| 13 | poses.". |