

Councilmember Mary M. Cheh

A BILL

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Councilmember Mary M. Cheh introduced the following bill, which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_.

To require that individuals secure liability insurance before obtaining a license to own a firearm; and to amend the Firearms Control Regulations Act of 1975 to include a reference to the insurance-liability requirement.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “Firearm Insurance Amendment Act of 2013”.

Sec. 2. Definitions.

For the purposes of this act, the term:

(1) “Firearm” shall have the same meaning as in section 101 of the Firearms Control Regulations Act of 1975, effective September 24, 1976 (D.C. Law 1-85; D.C. Official Code § 7-2501.01(9)).

Sec. 3. Firearm insurance policies.

(a) A person in the District who owns a firearm shall obtain and continuously maintain a policy of liability insurance in an amount of no less than \$250,000.

(b) The insurance policy required under subsection (a) of this section shall specifically cover any damages resulting from negligent acts, or willful acts that are not undertaken in self-defense, involving the use of the insured firearm while it is owned by the policy holder.

1 (c) Failure to maintain an insurance policy required by this section shall result in the  
2 immediate revocation of a firearm owner’s registration, license, and any other privileges to own  
3 a firearm.

4 (d) For the purposes of this section, a person shall be presumed to be the owner of a  
5 firearm if the firearm is lost or stolen until the loss or theft is reported to the Metropolitan Police  
6 Department.

7 (e) A person who owns a firearm on the effective date of this act shall obtain the  
8 insurance required by this section within 30 days of the effective date of this act.

9 (f) This section shall not apply to a peace officer who is authorized to carry a firearm.

10 Sec. 4. Conforming amendment.

11 Section 203(a) of the Firearms Control Regulations Act of 1975, effective September 24,  
12 1976 (D.C. Law 1-85; D.C. Official Code § 7-2502.03(a)), is amended by adding a new  
13 paragraph (15) to read as follows:

14 “(15) Has obtained an insurance policy pursuant to section 3 of the Firearm Insurance  
15 Amendment Act of 2013, introduced on March 5, 2013 (D.C. Bill 20 ).”.

16 Sec. 5. Rules.

17 The Mayor shall issue rules within 180 days of the effective date of this legislation.

18 Sec. 6. Fiscal impact statement.

19 The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal  
20 impact statement required by section 602(c)(3) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act,  
21 approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(3)).

22 Sec. 7. Effective date.

23 This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the  
24 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of Congressional review as

1 provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December  
2 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of  
3 Columbia.