

# SENATE BILL 208

E4  
SB 737/19 – JPR

0lr1864  
CF HB 4

---

By: **Senators Lee, Beidle, Benson, Carter, Elfreth, Feldman, Griffith, Guzzone, Kagan, Kelley, King, Kramer, Lam, Patterson, Pinsky, Rosapepe, Smith, Sydnor, Waldstreicher, Washington, Young, and Zucker**

Introduced and read first time: January 16, 2020

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

---

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Safety – Rifles and Shotguns – Secondary Transactions**

3 FOR the purpose of providing that a person who is not a certain licensee may not complete  
4 the transfer of a certain rifle or shotgun in a certain role, except under certain  
5 circumstances; requiring, before a certain transfer is conducted, the transferor and  
6 transferee to meet jointly with a certain licensee and request that the licensee  
7 facilitate the transfer; requiring a certain licensee to take certain actions when  
8 facilitating a certain transfer; prohibiting a certain licensee and transferor from  
9 completing a certain transfer if a certain background check has a certain result;  
10 authorizing a certain transferor to remove a certain rifle or shotgun from certain  
11 premises if a certain background check has a certain result; authorizing a certain  
12 licensee to charge a reasonable fee for facilitating a certain transfer; establishing  
13 certain penalties for violating this Act and for providing false information while  
14 conducting a transfer under this Act; excluding certain transfers from the scope of  
15 this Act; defining certain terms; and generally relating to rifles and shotguns.

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
17 Article – Public Safety  
18 Section 5–201  
19 Annotated Code of Maryland  
20 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

21 BY adding to  
22 Article – Public Safety  
23 Section 5–204.1  
24 Annotated Code of Maryland  
25 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

26 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

2 **Article – Public Safety**

3 5–201.

4 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

5 **(B) “DEALER’S LICENSE” MEANS A FEDERAL FIREARMS LICENSE.**

6 **(C) “IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER” MEANS A SPOUSE, A PARENT, A**  
7 **STEPPARENT, A GRANDPARENT, AN AUNT, AN UNCLE, A SIBLING, A STEPSIBLING, A**  
8 **CHILD, A STEPCHILD, A GRANDCHILD, A NIECE, OR A NEPHEW, AS RELATED BY**  
9 **BLOOD OR MARRIAGE.**

10 **(D) “LICENSEE” MEANS A PERSON WHO HOLDS A DEALER’S LICENSE.**

11 **(E) “NICS INDEX” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 5–133.2 OF THIS TITLE.**

12 **[(b)] (F) “Rifle” has the meaning stated in § 4–201 of the Criminal Law Article.**

13 **[(c)] (G) “Short–barreled rifle” has the meaning stated in § 4–201 of the**  
14 **Criminal Law Article.**

15 **[(d)] (H) “Short–barreled shotgun” has the meaning stated in § 4–201 of the**  
16 **Criminal Law Article.**

17 **[(e)] (I) “Shotgun” has the meaning stated in § 4–201 of the Criminal Law**  
18 **Article.**

19 **(J) “SPORT SHOOTING RANGE” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 5–403.1 OF**  
20 **THE COURTS ARTICLE.**

21 **(K) “TRANSFER” MEANS A SALE, A RENTAL, A FURNISHING, A GIFT, A LOAN,**  
22 **OR ANY OTHER DELIVERY, WITH OR WITHOUT CONSIDERATION.**

23 **(L) “TRANSFeree” MEANS A PERSON WHO RECEIVES OR INTENDS TO**  
24 **RECEIVE A FIREARM IN A TRANSFER.**

25 **(M) “TRANSFEROR” MEANS A PERSON WHO DELIVERS OR INTENDS TO**  
26 **DELIVER A FIREARM IN A TRANSFER.**

27 **5–204.1.**

28 **(A) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO A TRANSFER:**

1           (1) INVOLVING A LICENSEE OR A FEDERALLY LICENSED GUN  
2 MANUFACTURER, DEALER, OR IMPORTER;

3           (2) BETWEEN IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS;

4           (3) INVOLVING LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL OF ANY UNIT OF THE  
5 FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, A MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED  
6 STATES, A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL GUARD, OR LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL  
7 OF THE STATE OR ANY LOCAL AGENCY IN THE STATE, WHILE ACTING IN THE SCOPE  
8 OF OFFICIAL DUTY;

9           (4) OF A CURIO OR RELIC FIREARM BETWEEN COLLECTORS WHO  
10 EACH HAVE IN THEIR POSSESSION A VALID COLLECTOR OF CURIOS AND RELICS  
11 LICENSE, AS THE TERMS ARE DEFINED IN FEDERAL LAW OR DETERMINATIONS  
12 PUBLISHED BY THE BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS, AND EXPLOSIVES;

13           (5) THAT IS TEMPORARY AND NECESSARY TO PREVENT IMMINENT  
14 DEATH OR SERIOUS BODILY HARM IF THE TRANSFER LASTS ONLY AS LONG AS  
15 NECESSARY TO PREVENT IMMINENT DEATH OR SERIOUS BODILY HARM;

16           (6) THAT OCCURS BY OPERATION OF LAW ON THE DEATH OF A PERSON  
17 FOR WHOM THE TRANSFEREE IS AN EXECUTOR, AN ADMINISTRATOR, A TRUSTEE, OR  
18 A PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF AN ESTATE OR A TRUST CREATED IN A WILL;

19           (7) OF AN UNSERVICEABLE RIFLE OR SHOTGUN TRANSFERRED AS A  
20 CURIO OR MUSEUM PIECE;

21           (8) OF A RIFLE OR SHOTGUN MODIFIED TO RENDER IT PERMANENTLY  
22 INOPERATIVE; OR

23           (9) THAT IS TEMPORARY, OCCURS UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH  
24 THE TRANSFEROR HAS NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THE TRANSFEREE INTENDS TO  
25 USE THE RIFLE OR SHOTGUN IN THE COMMISSION OF A CRIME OR TO ALLOW  
26 ANOTHER PERSON TO USE THE RIFLE OR SHOTGUN, AND TAKES PLACE  
27 EXCLUSIVELY:

28           (I) AT AN ESTABLISHED SPORT SHOOTING RANGE OR GUN CLUB  
29 OPERATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL LAW OF THE JURISDICTION IN WHICH  
30 THE RANGE OR CLUB IS LOCATED;

31           (II) DURING A LAWFULLY ORGANIZED COMPETITION  
32 INVOLVING THE USE OF A RIFLE OR SHOTGUN;

1 (III) DURING A PERFORMANCE OR A PRACTICE FOR A  
2 PERFORMANCE BY AN ORGANIZED GROUP THAT USES RIFLES OR SHOTGUNS AS PART  
3 OF THE PERFORMANCE;

4 (IV) WHILE THE TRANSFEREE IS HUNTING OR TRAPPING IF THE  
5 HUNTING OR TRAPPING IS LEGAL IN ALL PLACES AND AT ALL TIMES WHEN THE  
6 HUNTING OR TRAPPING IS CONDUCTED AND THE TRANSFEREE HOLDS ANY LICENSE  
7 OR PERMIT REQUIRED FOR THE HUNTING OR TRAPPING; OR

8 (V) IN THE ACTUAL PRESENCE OF THE TRANSFEROR.

9 (B) A PERSON WHO IS NOT A LICENSEE MAY NOT COMPLETE THE TRANSFER  
10 OF A RIFLE OR SHOTGUN OTHER THAN A REGULATED FIREARM, AS A TRANSFEREE  
11 OR TRANSFEROR, UNLESS THE PERSON IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THIS SECTION.

12 (C) (1) BEFORE A TRANSFER IS CONDUCTED, THE TRANSFEROR AND  
13 TRANSFEREE SHALL MEET JOINTLY WITH A LICENSEE AND REQUEST THAT THE  
14 LICENSEE FACILITATE THE TRANSFER.

15 (2) (I) A LICENSEE WHO AGREES TO FACILITATE A TRANSFER  
16 UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL PROCESS THE TRANSFER AS THOUGH TRANSFERRING  
17 THE RIFLE OR SHOTGUN FROM THE LICENSEE'S OWN INVENTORY TO THE  
18 TRANSFEREE.

19 (II) THE LICENSEE SHALL CONDUCT A BACKGROUND CHECK ON  
20 THE TRANSFEREE THROUGH THE NICS INDEX AND COMPLY WITH ALL FEDERAL  
21 AND STATE LAW THAT WOULD APPLY TO THE TRANSFER, INCLUDING ALL  
22 INVENTORY AND RECORD-KEEPING REQUIREMENTS.

23 (D) (1) THE LICENSEE OR THE TRANSFEROR MAY NOT COMPLETE THE  
24 TRANSFER TO THE TRANSFEREE IF THE RESULTS OF THE BACKGROUND CHECK  
25 INDICATE THAT THE TRANSFEREE MAY NOT POSSESS THE RIFLE OR SHOTGUN.

26 (2) IF THE RESULTS OF THE BACKGROUND CHECK INDICATE THAT  
27 THE TRANSFEREE MAY NOT POSSESS THE RIFLE OR SHOTGUN, THE TRANSFEROR  
28 MAY REMOVE THE RIFLE OR SHOTGUN FROM THE PREMISES OF THE LICENSEE OR A  
29 GUN SHOW.

30 (E) A LICENSEE MAY CHARGE A REASONABLE FEE FOR FACILITATING A  
31 TRANSFER UNDER THIS SECTION.

32 (F) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A  
33 PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND ON  
34 CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 5 YEARS OR A FINE

1 NOT EXCEEDING \$10,000 OR BOTH.

2 (2) A PERSON WHO PROVIDES FALSE INFORMATION WHILE  
3 CONDUCTING A TRANSACTION UNDER THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR  
4 AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 3 YEARS OR A  
5 FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000 OR BOTH.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
7 October 1, 2020.