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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. 3976

03/05/2026 Authored by Finke, Greenman, Hollins, Pinto, Moller and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Public Safety Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to public safety; requiring lost and stolen firearms to be reported promptly
1.3 to law enforcement; providing criminal penalties; appropriating money; proposing
1.4 coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 624.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. 624.7139 LOST OR STOLEN FIREARMS.

1.7 Subdivision 1. Duty to report. A person who owns, possesses, or controls a firearm
1.8 must report the loss or theft of the firearm to a law enforcement agency in the jurisdiction
1.9 in which the loss or theft occurred as soon as practicable but not later than within 48 hours
1.10 of the time the person knew or reasonably should have known of the loss or theft.

1.11 Subd. 2. Penalty. (a) A person who violates this section is guilty of a petty misdemeanor.

1.12 (b) A person who violates this section a second time is guilty of a misdemeanor.

1.13 (c) A person who violates this section a third or subsequent time is guilty of a gross
1.14 misdemeanor.

1.15 Subd. 3. Immunity. A person who reports a lost or stolen firearm in compliance with
1.16 the requirements of subdivision 1 is immune from criminal prosecution for state law offenses
1.17 related to the storage of firearms.

1.18 Subd. 4. Report to commissioner of public safety. A chief of police or sheriff must
1.19 report a lost or stolen firearm to the commissioner of public safety within seven days of
1.20 receiving notification of the loss or theft under this section.

1.21 EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective August 1, 2026, and applies to acts
1.22 committed on or after that date.

2.1 Sec. 2. **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY; APPROPRIATION.**

2.2 \$36,000 in fiscal year 2027 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner
2.3 of public safety for a reporting system overseen by the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension
2.4 to allow chiefs of police and sheriffs to report lost or stolen firearms. This is a onetime
2.5 appropriation.