

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4992

To amend title 18, United States Code, to increase the age at which a rifle or shotgun may be acquired from a federally licensed firearms dealer, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 10, 2021

Mr. DEUTCH introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to increase the age at which a rifle or shotgun may be acquired from a federally licensed firearms dealer, 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 “21 to Buy Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. INCREASE IN AGE AT WHICH A RIFLE OR SHOTGUN**
2 **MAY BE ACQUIRED FROM A FEDERALLY LI-**
3 **CENSED FIREARMS DEALER.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 922(b) of title 18, United
5 States Code, is amended—

6 (1) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the
7 following:

8 “(1) any firearm or ammunition to any indi-
9 vidual who the licensee knows or has reasonable
10 cause to believe has not attained 21 years of age,
11 unless the individual is—

12 “(A) a law enforcement officer;

13 “(B) a correctional officer;

14 “(C) on active duty in the Armed Forces
15 of the United States, or full-time duty in the
16 National Guard; or

17 “(D) a member of the Armed Forces of the
18 United States or the National Guard who pos-
19 sesses or is armed with a firearm in the line of
20 duty;”.

21 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 922(c)(1)
22 of such title is amended by striking “, or that, in the case
23 of a shotgun or a rifle, I am eighteen years or more of
24 age” and inserting “or am a law enforcement officer, a
25 correctional officer, on active duty in the Armed Forces
26 of the United States or full-time duty in the National

1 Guard, or a member of the Armed Forces of the United
2 States or the National Guard who possesses or is armed
3 with a firearm in the line of duty”.

4 (c) DEFINITIONS.—Section 921(a) of such title is
5 amended by inserting after paragraph (29) the following:

6 “(30) The term ‘law enforcement officer’ means a
7 person—

8 “(A) who is elected, appointed, or employed by
9 the Federal Government or by a State or political
10 subdivision thereof;

11 “(B) who is vested with authority to bear arms
12 and make arrests; and

13 “(C) whose primary responsibility is the preven-
14 tion and detection of crime or the enforcement of the
15 penal, criminal, traffic, or highway laws,

16 including any supervisory or command personnel whose
17 duties include the supervision, training, guidance, or man-
18 agement of any such person.

19 “(31) The term ‘correctional officer’ means a per-
20 son—

21 “(A) who is appointed or employed by the Fed-
22 eral Government or by a State or political subdivi-
23 sion thereof, and whose primary responsibility is the
24 supervision, protection, care, custody, and control, or

1 investigation, of inmates of a correctional institution;
2 or

3 “(B) who is employed by any private entity that
4 has contracted with the Federal Government or a
5 State or political subdivision thereof, and who has
6 such a primary responsibility.”.

7 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
8 this section shall apply to conduct engaged in after the
9 6-month period that begins with the date of enactment
10 of this Act.

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