

HB 1596 -- FIREARMS

SPONSOR: Newman

This bill requires that all sales or transfers of a firearm, including Internet sales, be processed through a licensed firearm dealer. When neither party of the transaction is a licensed dealer, the parties must complete the sale or transfer using a licensed dealer who must retain possession until all legal requirements for the sale or transfer are met. The dealer must process the sale or transfer as if he or she is the seller and conduct a background check on the buyer or transferee. If the buyer or transferee is not eligible to possess a firearm the dealer must conduct a background check on the seller or transferor prior to returning the firearm. If the dealer cannot legally return the firearm to either party, he or she must deliver the firearm to the county sheriff within 24 hours. The dealer may charge the purchaser or transferee a fee to cover the administrative costs incurred for facilitating the transfer of the firearm, plus applicable federal, state, and local fees.

The provisions of the bill do not apply to specified individuals, including those who use, store, or repair guns as part of his or her business; use a firearm in his or her official job duties, hunting, or target practice.

Any person violating these provisions is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable of a fine of up to \$1,000, imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months, or both. The person will be guilty of a separate offense for each and every day in which a violation is committed or continued. Any violation of these provisions by a licensed firearms dealer must be reported by the investigating law enforcement agency to the Attorney General, who must then report it to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives within the United States Department of Justice.

This bill is the same as HB 347 (2015).