

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 116

To apply equal standards to certain foreign made and domestically produced handguns.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 7, 1997

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

A BILL

To apply equal standards to certain foreign made and domestically produced handguns.

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 “Gun Safety Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

6 The Congress finds that—

7 (1) the prohibition on the importation of hand-
8 guns that are not generally recognized as particu-
9 larly suitable for or readily adaptable to sporting

1 purposes, often described as junk guns or Saturday
2 night specials, has led to the creation of a high-vol-
3 ume market for these weapons that are domestically
4 manufactured;

5 (2) traffic in junk guns constitutes a serious
6 threat to public welfare and to law enforcement offi-
7 cers, and the use of such firearms is increasing;

8 (3) junk guns are used disproportionately in the
9 commission of crimes;

10 (4) of the firearms traced in 1995, the 3 fire-
11 arms most commonly traced to crimes were junk
12 guns; and

13 (5) the domestic manufacture, transfer, and
14 possession of junk guns should be restricted.

15 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION AGAINST TRANSFER OR POSSESSION**
16 **OF CERTAIN HANDGUNS.**

17 (a) PROHIBITION.—Section 922 of title 18, United
18 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the follow-
19 ing:

20 “(y)(1) It shall be unlawful for a person to transfer
21 or possess a junk gun that has been shipped or trans-
22 ported in interstate or foreign commerce.

23 “(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to—

1 “(A) the possession or transfer of a junk gun
2 otherwise lawfully possessed under Federal law on
3 the date of the enactment of the Gun Safety Act;

4 “(B) any firearm or replica of a firearm that
5 has been rendered permanently inoperative;

6 “(C) a transfer to or possession by the United
7 States or a State or a department or agency of the
8 United States, or a State or a department, agency,
9 or political subdivision of a State, or a transfer to
10 or possession by a law enforcement officer employed
11 by such an entity for law enforcement purposes
12 (whether on or off duty); or

13 “(D) the transfer or possession of a junk gun
14 by a licensed manufacturer or licensed importer for
15 the purposes of testing or experimentation author-
16 ized by the Secretary.”.

17 (b) DEFINITION OF JUNK GUN.—Section 921(a) of
18 such title is amended by adding at the end the following:

19 “(34) The term ‘junk gun’ means any firearm that
20 is not described in section 925(d)(3) or any regulation is-
21 sued under such section.”.

22 **SEC. 4. FIREARMS AND CHILD SAFETY.**

23 (a) PROHIBITION.—Section 922 of title 18, United
24 States Code, as amended by section 3(a) of this Act, is
25 amended by adding at the end the following:

1 “(z)(1) It shall be unlawful for a person to manufac-
2 ture or import a firearm that does not have as an integral
3 part a device or devices that—

4 “(A) prevent a child of less than 7 years of age
5 from discharging the firearm by reason of the
6 amount of strength, dexterity, cognitive skill, or
7 other ability required to cause a discharge;

8 “(B) prevent a firearm that has a removable
9 magazine from discharging when the magazine has
10 been removed; and

11 “(C) in the case of a handgun other than a re-
12 volver, clearly indicate whether the magazine or
13 chamber contains a round of ammunition.

14 “(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to
15 the manufacture or importation by or for the United
16 States or a department or agency thereof or a State or
17 a department, agency, or political subdivision thereof.”.

18 (b) PENALTY.—Section 924(a)(5) of such title is
19 amended by striking “or (t)” and inserting “(t), or (z)”.

20 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
21 this section shall become effective on the date that is 1
22 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

○