

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1062

H.P. 691

House of Representatives, March 14, 2025

An Act to Eliminate Background Checks for Private Sales of Firearms

Received by the Clerk of the House on March 12, 2025. Referred to the Committee on
Judiciary pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative POIRIER of Skowhegan.

Cosponsored by Representatives: ARDELL of Monticello, HAGGAN of Hampden, MORRIS
of Turner, NUTTING of Oakland, RUDNICKI of Fairfield, SMITH of Palermo, THORNE of
Carmel, WADSWORTH of Hiram.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 15 MRSA §395, sub-§1, ¶A, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 675, §6, is repealed.

Sec. 2. 15 MRSA §395, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 675, §6, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

2. Transactions covered by this section. This section applies only to transactions in which a dealer sells to a buyer at a gun show.

Sec. 3. 15 MRSA §395, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 675, §6, is amended to read:

4. Requirement for transactions covered by this section. A seller who is not a federally licensed firearms dealer may not complete a transaction to which this section applies unless the seller facilitates the transaction through a federally licensed firearms dealer. The dealer shall perform a background check of the putative buyer in a transaction to which this section applies by using the Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Instant Criminal Background Check System in the same manner as if the dealer were the seller of the firearm that is the subject of the transaction. If the background check reveals that the putative buyer is prohibited from purchasing a firearm, the dealer shall notify the seller of that fact and of the fact that the transaction may not proceed. The dealer may charge a reasonable fee for serving as the facilitator.

SUMMARY

This bill amends the law governing background checks of firearms buyers to eliminate background checks for private sales of firearms.