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116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

Legislative Document	No. 898
H.P. 660	House of Representatives, March 15, 1993
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An Act Concerning Juvenile Offenders.

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

OSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

11. 11. L. 3

Presented by Speaker MARTIN of Eagle Lake. Cosponsored by Representative: LARRIVEE of Gorham, Senator: BUSTIN of Kennebec.

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

Sec. 1. 15 MRSA §393, sub-§1, as amended by PL 1989, c. 917, §1, is further amended to read:

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1. Possession prohibited. No A person who has heen convicted of any crime, under the laws of the United States, the State of Maine or any other state, that is punishable by one year or more imprisonment or any other crime that was committed with the use of a dangerous weapon or of a firearm against a person, except for a violation of <u>former</u> Title 12, chapter 319, subchapter III, and no a person who has been adjudicated in the State or adjudicated under the law <u>laws</u> of the United States or any other state jurisdiction to have engaged -- in -- conduct -- as -a iuvenile--that,--if--committed--by--an--adult,--would-have--been--a disqualifying-conviction-under-this-subsection, committed, as a juvenile, a crime with the use of a dangerous weapon or of a firearm against a person may not own, or have in that person's possession or under that person's control any firearm, unless such-a that person has obtained a permit under this section. A person who has been adjudicated in the State or adjudicated under the laws of the United States or any other state jurisdiction to have engaged in conduct as a juvenile that, if committed by an adult, would have been punishable by one year or more imprisonment, but that was not a crime committed with a dangerous weapon or with a firearm against a person, may not own or have in that person's possession or control any firearm for a period of 3 years or until that person reaches 18 years of age, whichever is later. For the purposes of this subsection, a person is deemed to have been convicted upon the acceptance of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere or a verdict or finding of guilty, or the equivalent in a juvenile case, by a court of competent jurisdiction.

Sec. 2. 25 MRSA §2003, sub-§1, $\P D$, as amended by PL 1989, c. 917, §8, is further amended by amending subparagraph (5), division (c) to read:

(c) Have you ever been convicted of a crime described in division (a) or <u>have you within the past 5 years been</u> adjudicated as having committed a juvenile offense as described in division (b)?

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill distinguishes those juveniles that commit crimes with a firearm or other dangerous weapon from juvenile felons whose crimes did not involve a threat with a weapon against

> Page 1-LR1045(1) L.D. 898

another person. It provides that persons whose juvenile crimes are not committed with the use of a weapon are treated, with respect to gun ownership, in a manner consistent with other provisions of state law. A juvenile committing a felony would not be permitted to own or use a firearm for at least 3 years. The earliest the prohibition would be lifted is when the person becomes 18 years of age and the latest is when the person becomes 21 years of age. A juvenile committing any crime with the use of a weapon would not be able to own or use a firearm without going through the elaborate permitting process required for adults.

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This bill also changes a question on the concealed firearms permit application form to make it consistent with other questions on the form.