



House of Representatives

File No. 717

General Assembly

February Session, 2026

(Reprint of File No. 597)

Substitute House Bill No. 5043
As Amended by House Amendment
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
April 24, 2026

**AN ACT CONCERNING CONVERTIBLE PISTOLS, UNFINISHED
FRAMES OR UNFINISHED LOWER RECEIVERS, VOLUNTARY
RELINQUISHMENT OF FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION, AND
REFUNDABILITY OF PERMITS FOR SALE AT RETAIL OF FIREARMS
AND FOR CARRYING OF PISTOLS AND REVOLVERS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 53-202 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
3 *1, 2026*):

4 (a) As used in this section: (1) "Machine gun" [shall apply to and
5 include] means (A) a weapon of any description, loaded or unloaded,
6 [which] that shoots, is designed to shoot or can be readily restored to
7 shoot automatically more than one projectile, without manual
8 reloading, by a single function of the trigger, including any convertible
9 pistol that is equipped with a pistol converter, as defined in subsection
10 (c) of section 53-206g, as amended by this act, and [shall also include]
11 (B) any part or combination of parts designed for use in converting a

12 weapon into a machine gun and any combination of parts from which a
13 machine gun can be assembled if such parts are in the possession of or
14 under the control of a person. (2) "Crime of violence" [shall apply to and
15 include] means any of the following-named crimes or an attempt to
16 commit any of the same: Murder, manslaughter, kidnapping, sexual
17 assault and sexual assault with a firearm, assault in the first or second
18 degree, robbery, burglary, larceny and riot in the first degree. (3)
19 "Projectile" means any size bullet that when affixed to any cartridge case
20 may be propelled through the bore of a machine gun. (4) "Convertible
21 pistol" means any semiautomatic pistol with a cruciform trigger bar that
22 can be readily altered by hand or with a common household tool so that
23 the pistol can be readily converted into a machine gun by the installation
24 or attachment of a pistol converter, as defined in subsection (c) of section
25 53-206g, as amended by this act. "Convertible pistol" does not include
26 (A) any hammer-fired semiautomatic pistol, or (B) any semiautomatic
27 pistol with a cruciform trigger bar that has a tab or other piece of
28 material molded to the pistol's frame that shields the cruciform trigger
29 bar from interference by a pistol converter, unless the tab or other piece
30 of material can be readily removed from the pistol's frame. (5)
31 "Cruciform trigger bar" means a component in a semiautomatic pistol
32 that serves as a linkage between the trigger and firing pin and has its
33 sear incorporated in a cross-shaped surface. (6) "Common household
34 tool" includes, but is not limited to, a knife, screwdriver, wrench,
35 hacksaw, crowbar, electric drill, rotary tool, hammer, chisel, file or
36 pliers.

37 Sec. 2. Subsection (c) of section 53-206g of the 2026 supplement to the
38 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
39 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

40 (c) For purposes of this section, (1) "firearm" means firearm as defined
41 in section 53a-3, as amended by this act, [and] (2) "rate of fire
42 enhancement" means (A) any device, component, part, combination of
43 parts, attachment or accessory that: [(1)] (i) Uses energy from the recoil
44 of a firearm to generate a reciprocating action that causes repeated
45 function of the trigger, including, but not limited to, a bump stock; [(2)]

46 (ii) repeatedly pulls or forcibly resets the trigger of a firearm through the
47 use of a crank, lever or other part, including, but not limited to, a trigger
48 crank or forced reset trigger; or [(3)] (iii) causes a semiautomatic firearm
49 to fire more than one round per operation of the trigger, where the
50 trigger pull and reset constitute a single operation of the trigger,
51 including, but not limited to, a binary trigger system or a pistol
52 converter, or (B) any other device, part, combination of parts, kit, tool or
53 accessory that is not necessary for the function of the pistol and that,
54 when built into, installed in or attached to the pistol, increases the rate
55 of fire above the rate at which a person can fire the firearm without the
56 device, part, combination of parts, kit, tool or accessory, and (3) "pistol
57 converter" means any device or instrument that, when installed in or
58 attached to the rear of the slide of a semiautomatic pistol, interferes with
59 the trigger mechanism, thereby enabling the pistol to discharge a
60 number of shots or bullets rapidly or automatically with one continuous
61 pull of the trigger.

62 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) Any individual or firm,
63 partnership, corporation, limited liability company, association or other
64 similar entity that knowingly imports into this state or knowingly
65 advertises, sells, offers or exposes for sale any convertible pistol, as
66 defined in section 53-202 of the general statutes, as amended by this act,
67 that was manufactured on or after October 1, 2026, shall be guilty of a
68 class D felony.

69 (b) The provisions of this section shall not apply to sale at retail or
70 other lawful transfer of a convertible pistol by a person who is not a
71 licensed gun dealer to another person who is not a licensed gun dealer.

72 Sec. 4. Section 53a-3 of the 2026 supplement to the general statutes is
73 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
74 *1, 2026*):

75 Except where different meanings are expressly specified, the
76 following terms have the following meanings when used in this title:

77 (1) "Person" means a human being, and, where appropriate, a public

78 or private corporation, a limited liability company, an unincorporated
79 association, a partnership, a government or a governmental
80 instrumentality;

81 (2) "Possess" means to have physical possession or otherwise to
82 exercise dominion or control over tangible property;

83 (3) "Physical injury" means impairment of physical condition or pain;

84 (4) "Serious physical injury" means physical injury which creates a
85 substantial risk of death, or which causes serious disfigurement, serious
86 impairment of health or serious loss or impairment of the function of
87 any bodily organ;

88 (5) "Deadly physical force" means physical force which can be
89 reasonably expected to cause death or serious physical injury;

90 (6) "Deadly weapon" means any weapon, whether loaded or
91 unloaded, from which a shot may be discharged, or a switchblade knife,
92 gravity knife, billy, blackjack, bludgeon, or metal knuckles. The
93 definition of "deadly weapon" in this subdivision shall be deemed not
94 to apply to section 29-38 or 53-206 and does not include an electronic
95 defense weapon when used by a peace officer;

96 (7) "Dangerous instrument" means any instrument, article or
97 substance which, under the circumstances in which it is used or
98 attempted or threatened to be used, is capable of causing death or
99 serious physical injury, and includes a "vehicle" as that term is defined
100 in this section and includes a dog that has been commanded to attack,
101 except a dog owned by a law enforcement agency of the state or any
102 political subdivision thereof or of the federal government when such
103 dog is in the performance of its duties under the direct supervision, care
104 and control of an assigned law enforcement officer;

105 (8) "Vehicle" means a "motor vehicle" as defined in section 14-1, a
106 snowmobile, any aircraft, or any vessel equipped for propulsion by
107 mechanical means or sail;

108 (9) "Peace officer" means a member of the Division of State Police
109 within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection or
110 an organized local police department, a chief inspector or inspector in
111 the Division of Criminal Justice, a state marshal while exercising
112 authority granted under any provision of the general statutes, a judicial
113 marshal in the performance of the duties of a judicial marshal, a
114 conservation officer or special conservation officer, as defined in section
115 26-5, a constable who performs criminal law enforcement duties, a
116 special policeman appointed under section 29-18, 29-18a, 29-18b or 29-
117 19, an adult probation officer, an official of the Department of Correction
118 authorized by the Commissioner of Correction to make arrests in a
119 correctional institution or facility, any investigator in the investigations
120 unit of the office of the State Treasurer, an inspector of motor vehicles in
121 the Department of Motor Vehicles, who is certified under the provisions
122 of sections 7-294a to 7-294e, inclusive, a United States marshal or deputy
123 marshal, any special agent of the federal government authorized to
124 enforce the provisions of Title 21 of the United States Code, or a member
125 of a law enforcement unit of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe or the
126 Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut created and governed by a
127 memorandum of agreement under section 47-65c who is certified as a
128 police officer by the Police Officer Standards and Training Council
129 pursuant to sections 7-294a to 7-294e, inclusive;

130 (10) "Firefighter" means any agent of a municipality whose duty it is
131 to protect life and property therein as a member of a duly constituted
132 fire department whether professional or volunteer;

133 (11) A person acts "intentionally" with respect to a result or to conduct
134 described by a statute defining an offense when his conscious objective
135 is to cause such result or to engage in such conduct;

136 (12) A person acts "knowingly" with respect to conduct or to a
137 circumstance described by a statute defining an offense when he is
138 aware that his conduct is of such nature or that such circumstance exists;

139 (13) A person acts "recklessly" with respect to a result or to a

140 circumstance described by a statute defining an offense when he is
141 aware of and consciously disregards a substantial and unjustifiable risk
142 that such result will occur or that such circumstance exists. The risk
143 must be of such nature and degree that disregarding it constitutes a
144 gross deviation from the standard of conduct that a reasonable person
145 would observe in the situation;

146 (14) A person acts with "criminal negligence" with respect to a result
147 or to a circumstance described by a statute defining an offense when he
148 fails to perceive a substantial and unjustifiable risk that such result will
149 occur or that such circumstance exists. The risk must be of such nature
150 and degree that the failure to perceive it constitutes a gross deviation
151 from the standard of care that a reasonable person would observe in the
152 situation;

153 (15) "Machine gun" means a weapon of any description, irrespective
154 of size, by whatever name known, loaded or unloaded, from which a
155 number of shots or bullets may be rapidly or automatically discharged
156 from a magazine with one continuous pull of the trigger and includes a
157 submachine gun and any convertible pistol, as defined in section 53-202,
158 as amended by this act, that is in the possession of an individual person
159 who is also in the possession of a pistol converter, as defined in
160 subsection (c) of section 53-206g, as amended by this act;

161 (16) "Rifle" means a weapon designed or redesigned, made or
162 remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed or
163 redesigned and made or remade to use the energy of the explosive in a
164 fixed metallic cartridge to fire only a single projectile through a rifled
165 bore for each single pull of the trigger;

166 (17) "Shotgun" means a weapon designed or redesigned, made or
167 remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed or
168 redesigned and made or remade to use the energy of the explosive in a
169 fixed shotgun shell to fire through a smooth bore either a number of ball
170 shot or a single projectile for each single pull of the trigger;

171 (18) "Pistol" or "revolver" means any firearm having a barrel less than

172 twelve inches;

173 (19) "Firearm" means any sawed-off shotgun, machine gun, rifle,
174 shotgun, pistol, revolver or other weapon, whether loaded or unloaded
175 from which a shot may be discharged;

176 (20) "Electronic defense weapon" means a weapon which by
177 electronic impulse or current is capable of immobilizing a person
178 temporarily, including a stun gun or other conductive energy device;

179 (21) "Martial arts weapon" means a nunchaku, kama, kasari-fundo,
180 octagon sai, tonfa or chinese star;

181 (22) "Employee of an emergency medical service organization" means
182 an ambulance driver, emergency medical technician or paramedic as
183 defined in section 19a-175;

184 (23) "Railroad property" means all tangible property owned, leased
185 or operated by a railroad carrier including, but not limited to, a right-of-
186 way, track, roadbed, bridge, yard, shop, station, tunnel, viaduct, trestle,
187 depot, warehouse, terminal or any other structure or appurtenance or
188 equipment owned, leased or used in the operation of a railroad carrier
189 including a train, locomotive, engine, railroad car, signals or safety
190 device or work equipment or rolling stock;

191 (24) "Serious firearm offense" means a violation of section 29-36, 29-
192 36a, as amended by this act, or 53-202w, possession of a stolen firearm
193 or a firearm that is altered in a manner that renders the firearm
194 unlawful, or any crime of which an essential element is that the person
195 discharged, used or was armed with and threatened the use of a firearm;
196 and

197 (25) "Serious firearm offender" means a person who has (A) two
198 convictions for a serious firearm offense, (B) a conviction for a serious
199 firearm offense and was previously convicted of a violation of section
200 29-36, 29-36a, as amended by this act, subdivision (1) of subsection (a)
201 of section 53a-217 or subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 53a-217c,

202 or (C) a conviction for a serious firearm offense and was previously
203 convicted of two or more additional felony offenses.

204 Sec. 5. Section 53-206j of the general statutes is repealed and the
205 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

206 (a) No person shall purchase or receive or sell, deliver or otherwise
207 transfer an unfinished frame or unfinished lower receiver, except as
208 provided in: (1) Subsections (b) and (c) of this section; or (2) subsection
209 (d) of this section; or (3) subsection (e) of this section.

210 (b) The procedures for the purchase or receipt or sale, delivery or
211 other transfer of an unfinished frame or unfinished lower receiver shall
212 be the same procedures as apply to the purchase or receipt or sale,
213 delivery or other transfer of a pistol or revolver under subsections (b) to
214 (e), inclusive, of section 29-33, provided such purchase or receipt or sale,
215 delivery or other transfer of an unfinished frame or unfinished lower
216 receiver is in accordance with the provisions of subsection (c) of this
217 section.

218 (c) (1) No person shall sell, deliver or otherwise transfer an unfinished
219 frame or unfinished lower receiver pursuant to subsection (b) of this
220 section that does not have a unique serial number or other mark of
221 identification, obtained pursuant to: (A) The serial numbering program
222 of the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, or
223 (B) subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection.

224 (2) A person may obtain a unique serial number or other mark of
225 identification for an unfinished frame or unfinished lower receiver by
226 providing to the Department of Emergency Services and Public
227 Protection any identifying information concerning the unfinished frame
228 or unfinished lower receiver and the owner of such unfinished frame or
229 unfinished lower receiver, in a manner prescribed by the Commissioner
230 of Emergency Services and Public Protection. Upon receiving a properly
231 submitted request for a unique serial number or other mark of
232 identification for an unfinished frame or unfinished lower receiver, the
233 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall

234 determine if such person is prohibited from purchasing a firearm, and
235 if not, shall issue to such person a unique serial number or other mark
236 of identification immediately and in no instance more than (A) three
237 business days after the Department of Emergency Services and Public
238 Protection receives such request, or (B) ten business days after the
239 system to distribute a unique serial number or other mark of
240 identification pursuant to section 29-36b, as amended by this act, is
241 operational, whichever date is later.

242 (3) Such unique serial number or other mark of identification shall be
243 engraved upon or permanently affixed to the unfinished frame or
244 unfinished lower receiver in a manner that conforms with the
245 requirements imposed on licensed importers and licensed
246 manufacturers of firearms pursuant to 18 USC 923(i), as amended from
247 time to time, and any regulation adopted thereunder.

248 (d) The provisions of subsections (a) to (c), inclusive, of this section
249 shall not apply to the sale, delivery or transfer of any unfinished frame
250 or unfinished lower receiver between (1) a federally licensed firearm
251 manufacturer and a federally licensed firearm dealer, (2) a federally
252 licensed firearm importer and a federally licensed firearm dealer, or (3)
253 federally licensed firearm dealers.

254 (e) Any person may arrange in advance to deliver and transfer an
255 unfinished frame or unfinished lower receiver to a police department or
256 the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection.

257 (f) On and after October 1, 2019, no person shall possess an unfinished
258 frame or unfinished lower receiver unless such person is eligible to
259 purchase a firearm under state and federal law.

260 (g) If the court finds that a violation of this section is not of a serious
261 nature and that the person charged with such violation (1) will probably
262 not offend in the future, (2) has not previously been convicted of a
263 violation of this section, and (3) has not previously had a prosecution
264 under this section suspended pursuant to this subsection, the court may
265 order suspension of prosecution. The court shall not order suspension

266 of prosecution unless the accused person has acknowledged that he or
267 she understands the consequences of the suspension of prosecution.
268 Any person for whom prosecution is suspended shall agree to the
269 tolling of any statute of limitations with respect to such violation and to
270 a waiver of his or her right to a speedy trial. Such person shall appear in
271 court and shall be released to the supervision of the Court Support
272 Services Division for such period, not exceeding two years, and under
273 such conditions as the court shall order. If the person refuses to accept,
274 or, having accepted, violates such conditions, the court shall terminate
275 the suspension of prosecution and the case shall be brought to trial. If
276 such person satisfactorily completes such person's period of probation,
277 he or she may apply for dismissal of the charges against such person
278 and the court, on finding such satisfactory completion, shall dismiss
279 such charges. If the person does not apply for dismissal of the charges
280 against such person after satisfactorily completing such person's period
281 of probation, the court, upon receipt of a report submitted by the Court
282 Support Services Division that the person satisfactorily completed such
283 person's period of probation, may on its own motion make a finding of
284 such satisfactory completion and dismiss such charges. Upon dismissal,
285 all records of such charges shall be erased pursuant to section 54-142a.
286 An order of the court denying a motion to dismiss the charges against a
287 person who has completed such person's period of probation or
288 terminating the participation of a defendant in such program shall be a
289 final judgment for purposes of appeal.

290 (h) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be
291 guilty of a class C felony for which two years of the sentence imposed
292 may not be suspended or reduced by the court, and five thousand
293 dollars of the fine imposed may not be remitted or reduced by the court
294 unless the court states on the record its reasons for remitting or reducing
295 such fine, except that any person who sells, delivers or otherwise
296 transfers an unfinished frame or unfinished lower receiver in violation
297 of the provisions of this section knowing that such unfinished frame or
298 unfinished lower receiver is stolen or that the manufacturer's number or
299 other mark of identification on such unfinished frame or unfinished

300 lower receiver has been altered, removed or obliterated, shall be guilty
301 of a class B felony for which three years of the sentence imposed may
302 not be suspended or reduced by the court, and ten thousand dollars of
303 the fine imposed may not be remitted or reduced by the court unless the
304 court states on the record its reasons for remitting or reducing such fine,
305 and any unfinished frame or unfinished lower receiver found in the
306 possession of any person in violation of any provision of this section
307 shall be forfeited.

308 (i) For purposes of this section, ["unfinished frame or lower receiver"]
309 "unfinished frame or unfinished lower receiver" means a blank, casting,
310 [or machined body intended to be turned into the frame or lower
311 receiver of a firearm, as defined in section 53a-3, with additional
312 machining, and which has been formed or machined to the point where
313 most major machining operations have been completed to turn the
314 blank, casting or machined body into a frame or lower receiver of a
315 firearm, even if the fire-control cavity area of such blank, casting or
316 machined body is still completely solid and unmachined. An
317 "unfinished frame or lower receiver" is not a firearm, as defined in 18
318 USC 921(a), as amended from time to time] forging, printing, extrusion,
319 machined body or similar item that (1) has reached a stage in
320 manufacture where it may readily be completed into the frame or
321 receiver of a functional firearm; or (2) is marketed or sold to the public
322 to become or be used as the frame or receiver of a functional firearm
323 once completed.

324 Sec. 6. Subsection (b) of section 29-28 of the 2026 supplement to the
325 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
326 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

327 (b) (1) No person who sells ten or more firearms in a calendar year or
328 is a federally licensed firearm dealer shall advertise, sell, deliver, or offer
329 or expose for sale or delivery, or have in such person's possession with
330 intent to sell or deliver, any pistol or revolver at retail without having a
331 permit therefor issued as provided in this subsection. No individual or
332 firm, partnership, corporation, limited liability company, association or

333 other similar entity may within this state advertise, sell, deliver or offer
334 or expose for sale or delivery, or have in such individual's or firm's,
335 partnership's, corporation's, limited liability company's, association's or
336 other similar entity's possession with the intent to sell at retail or deliver,
337 any unfinished frame or unfinished lower receiver, as defined in section
338 53-206j, as amended by this act, without having a permit therefor issued
339 as provided in this subsection.

340 (2) The local permitting authority may, upon the application of any
341 person, issue a permit in such form as may be prescribed by the
342 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection for the sale
343 at retail of firearms within the jurisdiction of the local permitting
344 authority. No permit for the sale at retail of firearms shall be issued
345 unless the applicant holds a valid eligibility certificate for a pistol or
346 revolver issued pursuant to section 29-36f or a valid state permit to carry
347 a pistol or revolver issued pursuant to subsection (c) of this section; and
348 the applicant submits documentation sufficient to establish that local
349 zoning requirements have been met for the location where the sale is to
350 take place, except that any person selling or exchanging a pistol or
351 revolver for the enhancement of a personal collection or for a hobby or
352 who sells all or part of such person's personal collection of pistols or
353 revolvers shall not be required to submit such documentation for the
354 location where the sale or exchange is to take place.

355 (3) Any person holding a valid permit for the sale at retail of pistols
356 or revolvers issued on or before September 30, 2023, shall be deemed to
357 be a holder of a valid permit for the sale at retail of firearms until such
358 permit for the sale at retail of pistols or revolvers expires or is revoked,
359 suspended, confiscated or surrendered. The holder of such permit may
360 renew such permit as a permit for the sale at retail of firearms pursuant
361 to section 29-30, as amended by this act.

362 Sec. 7. Subdivision (2) of section 52-571o of the 2026 supplement to
363 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
364 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

365 (2) "Firearm industry product" means any of the following which are
366 or were (A) sold, made or distributed in this state; or (B) possessed in
367 this state and it was known by the firearm industry member that such
368 product would be sold, made, distributed or possessed in this state:

369 (i) Ammunition or a magazine as those terms are defined in section
370 29-38m;

371 (ii) A firearm as defined in section 53a-3, as amended by this act;

372 (iii) An unfinished frame or unfinished lower receiver as defined in
373 section 53-206j, as amended by this act; or

374 (iv) A rate of [firearm] fire enhancement as defined in section 53-206g,
375 as amended by this act.

376 Sec. 8. Subsection (d) of section 29-36a of the general statutes is
377 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
378 *1, 2026*):

379 (d) The provisions of subsections (a), (b) and (c) of this section shall
380 not apply to the manufacture of a firearm manufactured using an
381 unfinished frame or unfinished lower receiver, as defined in section 53-
382 206j, as amended by this act, on which a serial number or other mark
383 has been engraved or permanently affixed pursuant to subsection (c) of
384 section 53-206j, as amended by this act.

385 Sec. 9. Section 29-36b of the general statutes is repealed and the
386 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

387 Not later than October 1, 2019, the Department of Emergency Services
388 and Public Protection, in consultation with the federal Bureau of
389 Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives as needed, shall develop and
390 maintain a system to distribute a unique serial number or other mark of
391 identification to any person requesting such number or mark pursuant
392 to section 29-36a or 53-206j, as amended by this act, and provide written
393 notification that such system is operational by: (1) Posting the
394 notification on the department's Internet web site, and (2) providing the

395 notification electronically to federally licensed firearm dealers. The
396 department shall maintain identifying information of the person
397 requesting the number or mark and of the firearm or unfinished frame
398 or unfinished lower receiver, as defined in section 53-206j, as amended
399 by this act, for which each such number or mark is requested.

400 Sec. 10. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) Any individual may, at
401 any time, deliver or surrender any firearm, as defined in section 53a-3
402 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or ammunition in the
403 possession of such individual to the Commissioner of Emergency
404 Services and Public Protection for a period of not less than fourteen
405 days, provided a local police department may accept such firearm or
406 ammunition on behalf of said commissioner. The commissioner or local
407 police department shall exercise due care in the receipt and holding of
408 such firearm or ammunition.

409 (b) An individual who delivers or surrenders a firearm or
410 ammunition to the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public
411 Protection or a local police department may request the return of such
412 firearm or ammunition on or after the fifteenth day after the date of such
413 delivery or surrender, but not later than two years after such date. Such
414 request shall include a completed and signed form promulgated
415 pursuant to subsection (b) of section 11 of this act.

416 (c) Not later than five days after receiving a request pursuant to
417 subsection (b) of this section, the commissioner or a local police
418 department shall review the request and make available for retrieval
419 any firearm or ammunition to such individual, provided the
420 commissioner or local police department confirms that such individual
421 (1) submitted the signed form required pursuant to subsection (b) of this
422 section, (2) is not otherwise disqualified from possessing such firearm
423 or ammunition, and (3) was legally entitled to possess such firearm or
424 ammunition at the time of delivery or surrender to the commissioner or
425 a local police department. If such firearm or ammunition has not been
426 collected by the individual at the end of the two-year period
427 immediately following the date of delivery or surrender of such firearm

428 or ammunition, the commissioner or a local police department, as
429 applicable, shall cause such firearm or ammunition to be destroyed. Not
430 later than ninety days prior to such destruction, the commissioner or
431 local police department, as applicable, shall notify, in writing, the
432 individual who delivered or surrendered the firearm or ammunition of
433 the date of such destruction.

434 Sec. 11. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than thirty days
435 after the effective date of this section, the Commissioner of Emergency
436 Services and Public Protection shall, within available appropriations,
437 provide written notification of the provisions of section 10 of this act by
438 posting the notification on the Department of Emergency Services and
439 Public Protection's Internet web site. Such notification shall include
440 directions concerning how an individual who delivers or surrenders
441 any firearm, as defined in section 53a-3 of the general statutes, as
442 amended by this act, or ammunition in the possession of such individual
443 to the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection for a
444 period of not less than fourteen days, may on or after the fifteenth day
445 after the date of such delivery or surrender, but not later than two years
446 after such date, request the return of such firearm or ammunition, and
447 which requirements the individual must satisfy in order to have such
448 firearm or ammunition returned to such person. Such notice shall also
449 provide that such firearm or ammunition shall be destroyed if not
450 collected by the individual before the end of the two-year period
451 immediately following the date of delivery or surrender of a firearm or
452 ammunition.

453 (b) On or before October 1, 2027, the Commissioner of Emergency
454 Services and Public Protection shall promulgate and make available on
455 the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection's Internet
456 web site a form to be signed by any individual who is seeking the return
457 of a firearm or ammunition pursuant to section 10 of this act.

458 Sec. 12. Subsections (a) to (e), inclusive, of section 29-30 of the 2026
459 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is
460 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

461 (a) The fee for each permit originally issued under the provisions of
462 subsection (b) of section 29-28, as amended by this act, for the sale at
463 retail of firearms shall be two hundred dollars and the fee for each
464 renewal of such permit shall be two hundred dollars. The fee for each
465 state permit originally issued under the provisions of subsection (c) of
466 section 29-28, for the carrying of pistols and revolvers shall be one
467 hundred forty dollars plus sufficient funds as required to be transmitted
468 to the Federal Bureau of Investigation to cover the cost of a national
469 criminal history records check. The local permitting authority, as
470 defined in section 29-28, as amended by this act, or the chief of police of
471 a law enforcement unit of any federally recognized Native American
472 tribe within the borders of the state, as referenced in subsection (c) of
473 section 29-28, shall forward sufficient funds for the national criminal
474 history records check to the commissioner no later than five business
475 days after receipt by the local permitting authority, or such chief of
476 police of a law enforcement unit of any federally recognized Native
477 American tribe, of the application for the temporary state permit.
478 [Seventy] Except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, seventy
479 dollars shall be retained by the local permitting authority, or such chief
480 of police of a law enforcement unit of any federally recognized Native
481 American tribe. Upon approval by the local permitting authority, or
482 such chief of police of a law enforcement unit of any federally
483 recognized Native American tribe, of the application for a temporary
484 state permit, seventy dollars shall be sent to the commissioner. The fee
485 to renew each state permit originally issued under the provisions of
486 subsection (c) of section 29-28 shall be seventy dollars. Upon deposit of
487 such fees in the General Fund, ten dollars of each fee shall be credited
488 within thirty days to the appropriation for the Department of
489 Emergency Services and Public Protection to a separate nonlapsing
490 account for the purposes of the issuance of permits under subsections
491 (b) and (c) of section 29-28, as amended by this act.

492 (b) A local permit originally issued before October 1, 2001, whether
493 for the sale at retail of pistols and revolvers or for the carrying of pistols
494 and revolvers, shall expire five years after the date it becomes effective

495 and each renewal of such permit shall expire five years after the
496 expiration date of the permit being renewed. On and after October 1,
497 2001, no local permit for the carrying of pistols and revolvers shall be
498 renewed.

499 (c) A state permit originally issued under the provisions of section 29-
500 28, as amended by this act, for the carrying of pistols and revolvers shall
501 expire five years after the date such permit becomes effective and each
502 renewal of such permit shall expire five years after the expiration date
503 of the state permit being renewed and such renewal shall not be
504 contingent on the renewal or issuance of a local permit. A temporary
505 state permit issued for the carrying of pistols and revolvers shall expire
506 sixty days after the date it becomes effective, and may not be renewed.

507 (d) The renewal fee required pursuant to subsection (a) of this section
508 shall apply for each renewal which is requested not earlier than thirty-
509 one days before, and not later than thirty-one days after, the expiration
510 date of the state permit being renewed.

511 (e) No fee or portion of any fee paid under the provisions of this
512 section for issuance or renewal of a state permit shall be refundable
513 except if (1) such permit for which the fee or portion was paid was not
514 issued or renewed, or (2) the local permitting authority fails to discharge
515 any obligation applicable to such local permitting authority pursuant to
516 subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 29-28a or subsection (b) or (c)
517 of section 29-29 within the applicable time limits established under said
518 subdivision or subsections, in which case the local permitting authority
519 shall refund seventy dollars to the applicant. A refund issued pursuant
520 to the provisions of subdivision (2) of this subsection shall not alleviate
521 the local permitting authority from discharging any obligation specified
522 in said subdivision or subsections after such applicable time limits. The
523 portion of the fee expended on the national criminal history records
524 check for any such permit that was not issued or renewed shall not be
525 refunded.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	53-202(a)
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	53-206g(c)
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	53a-3
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	53-206j
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	29-28(b)
Sec. 7	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	52-571o(2)
Sec. 8	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	29-36a(d)
Sec. 9	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	29-36b
Sec. 10	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 11	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 12	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	29-30(a) to (e)

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 27 \$	FY 28 \$
Correction, Dept.; Judicial Dept. (Probation)	GF - Potential Cost	Minimal	Minimal
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 27 \$	FY 28 \$
Various Municipalities	Potential Revenue Loss	Minimal	Minimal

Explanation

The bill makes several changes to firearms statutes and results in the following impacts.

Section 3 creates a new class D felony for anyone to import, advertise, sell, offer, or expose for sale a convertible pistol and expands other firearms-related definitions, resulting in a potential cost to the Department of Correction and the Judicial Department for incarceration or probation and a potential revenue gain to the General Fund from fines. On average, the marginal cost to the state for incarcerating an offender for the year is \$3,300¹ while the average marginal cost for

¹ Inmate marginal cost is based on increased consumables (e.g., food, clothing, water, sewage, living supplies, etc.) This does not include a change in staffing costs or utility expenses because these expenses would only be realized if a unit or facility opened.

supervision in the community is less than \$600² each year for adults and \$450 each year for juveniles.

Section 503 results in potential minimal revenue loss to local firearms permitting authorities to the extent they fail to complete their duties within existing statutorily established timeframes and must issue refunds. Local permitting authorities are either a chief of police or the chief executive officer of the town.

The remaining sections make clarifying and procedural changes, which are not expected to result in a fiscal impact because the affected agencies have the capacity and expertise to meet the bill's requirements.

House "A" adds section 503, which results in the fiscal impact described above, and adds sections 501 and 502, which do not result in a fiscal impact.

The amendment also makes clarifying changes that do not result in a fiscal impact.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of offenses and fines collected and the number of refunds issued by local permitting authorities.

² Probation marginal cost is based on services provided by private providers and only includes costs that increase with each additional participant. This does not include a cost for additional supervision by a probation officer unless a new offense is anticipated to result in enough additional offenders to require additional probation officers.

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 5043 (as amended by House "A")******AN ACT CONCERNING CONVERTIBLE PISTOLS AND UNFINISHED FRAMES OR UNFINISHED LOWER RECEIVERS.***

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

[SUMMARY](#)[§§ 1–4 — CONVERTIBLE PISTOLS AND RATE OF FIRE ENHANCEMENTS](#)

Generally makes it a class D felony to knowingly import into Connecticut or knowingly advertise, sell, offer, or expose for sale any convertible pistol manufactured on or after October 1, 2026; defines terms associated with the bill's convertible pistols-related provisions; expands "rate of fire enhancement" to include a pistol converter or certain other devices, parts, or accessories that generally increase the pistol's rate of fire, and subjects them to existing law's penalty for rate of fire enhancement-related violations; specifies that under some circumstances, convertible pistols are considered to be machine guns

[§§ 5–9 — UNFINISHED FRAME OR UNFINISHED LOWER RECEIVER](#)

Clarifies that "unfinished frame or lower receiver" refers to "unfinished frame or unfinished lower receiver," redefines the term, and makes corresponding changes throughout; prohibits anyone without a local dealer permit from (1) advertising, selling, or delivering them, (2) offering or exposing them for sale or delivery, or (3) possessing them with the intent to deliver them or sell them at retail

[§§ 10 & 11 — VOLUNTARY DELIVERY OR SURRENDER OF FIREARMS OR AMMUNITION TO POLICE](#)

Explicitly allows anyone to deliver or surrender any firearm or ammunition they possess to DESPP or a local police department, which must then hold them for at least 14 days, up to a maximum of two years; establishes a process for returning these items to transferors and destroying those that are not returned

§ 12 — PISTOL PERMIT FEE REQUIRED REFUND

Requires local handgun permitting authorities to refund \$70 to applicants if the authority does not act within statutorily established timeframes

SUMMARY

This bill makes various changes to firearms-related laws, including those related to convertible pistols, rate of fire enhancements, unfinished frames or unfinished lower receivers, the voluntary delivery or surrender of firearms or ammunition to police, and pistol permit fee refunds. It also makes conforming changes. A section-by-section analysis appears below.

*House Amendment "A" (1) makes the underlying bill's prohibition on convertible pistol sales and related actions a class D felony only if the person or entity knowingly violates it (§ 3); (2) specifically excludes certain semiautomatic pistols with a cruciform trigger bar from the underlying bill's definition of "convertible pistols" (§ 1); (3) specifies that "common household tools" as defined in the underlying bill includes knives (§ 1); (4) considers any device, component, part, combination of parts, attachment, or accessory that forcibly resets the firearm's trigger a rate of fire enhancement (§ 2); and (5) adds the provisions on (a) the voluntary delivery or surrender of firearms or ammunition to police and (b) pistol permit fee refunds (§§ 10-12).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026, unless stated otherwise below.

§§ 1-4 — CONVERTIBLE PISTOLS AND RATE OF FIRE ENHANCEMENTS

Generally makes it a class D felony to knowingly import into Connecticut or knowingly advertise, sell, offer, or expose for sale any convertible pistol manufactured on or after October 1, 2026; defines terms associated with the bill's convertible pistols-related provisions; expands "rate of fire enhancement" to include a pistol converter or certain other devices, parts, or accessories that generally increase the pistol's rate of fire, and subjects them to existing law's penalty for rate of fire enhancement-related violations; specifies that under some circumstances, convertible pistols are considered to be machine guns

Prohibition Related to Certain Convertible Pistols (§ 3)

This bill generally makes it a class D felony for anyone or any legal entity (firm, partnership, corporation, limited liability company, association, or other similar entity) to knowingly import into Connecticut or knowingly advertise, sell, offer, or expose for sale any convertible pistol manufactured on or after October 1, 2026. A class D felony is punishable by up to five years in prison, a fine up to \$5,000, or both. The bill does not apply this provision to retail sale or other lawful transfer of a convertible pistol by someone who is not a licensed gun dealer to another person who is not a licensed gun dealer.

Under the bill, a “convertible pistol” is any semiautomatic pistol with a cruciform trigger bar (see below) that can be readily altered by hand or with a common household tool (such as a knife, screwdriver, wrench, hacksaw, crowbar, electric drill, rotary tool, hammer, chisel, file, or pliers) so that the pistol can be readily converted into a machine gun by installing or attaching a pistol converter. It also specifies certain things that are not considered convertible pistols under the bill (see below).

Convertible Pistols-Related Definitions (§ 1)

The bill defines terms associated with its convertible pistols-related provisions, including adding certain convertible pistols to the definition of “machine guns” for the purpose of laws specific to offenses against public peace and safety.

Machine Gun. The bill expressly states that any convertible pistol that is equipped with a pistol converter is a machine gun. Under existing law, a “machine gun” is (1) any weapon, loaded or unloaded, that shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot automatically more than one projectile, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger, and (2) any part or combination of parts designed to convert a weapon into a machine gun and any combination of parts from which a machine gun can be assembled if a person possessed or controlled these parts.

Pistol Converter. Under the bill, a “pistol converter” is any device or instrument that, when installed in or attached to the rear of the slide

of a semiautomatic pistol, interferes with the trigger mechanism, and in so doing enables the pistol to discharge a number of shots or bullets rapidly or automatically with one continuous pull of the trigger.

Convertible Pistol. The bill specifies that “convertible pistol” does not include any (1) hammer-fired semiautomatic pistol or (2) semiautomatic pistol with a cruciform trigger bar that has a tab or other piece of material molded to the pistol’s frame that shields that bar from interference by a pistol converter unless the tab or other piece of material can be readily removed from the pistol’s frame.

Cruciform Trigger Bar. Under the bill, a “cruciform trigger bar” is a component in a semiautomatic pistol that serves as a linkage between the trigger and firing pin and has its sear incorporated in a cross-shaped surface.

Rate of Fire Enhancement (§ 2)

The law generally makes it a class D felony for anyone, except a federally licensed firearms manufacturer fulfilling a military contract, to sell, offer to sell, otherwise transfer or offer to transfer, purchase, possess, use, or manufacture a “rate of fire enhancement” (such as a bump stock).

Under current law, “rate of fire enhancement” means any device, component, part, combination of parts, attachment, or accessory that:

1. uses energy from a firearm’s recoil to generate a reciprocating action that causes repeated function of the trigger, such as a bump stock;
2. repeatedly pulls the trigger of a firearm through the use of a crank, lever, or other part, such as a trigger crank; or
3. causes a semiautomatic firearm to fire more than one round per operation of the trigger, where the trigger pull and reset constitute a single operation of the trigger, such as a binary trigger system.

Under the bill, this also includes any device, component, part, combination of parts, attachment, or accessory that forcibly resets the firearm's trigger using a crank, lever, or other part, such as a forced reset trigger. The bill further expands "rate of fire enhancement" to include (1) a pistol converter or (2) any other device, part, combination of parts, kit, tool, or accessory that is not necessary for the function of the pistol and that, when built into, installed in, or attached to the pistol, increases the rate of fire above the rate at which a person can otherwise fire the firearm. In doing so it subjects anyone who sells, offers to sell, otherwise transfers or offers to transfer, purchases, possesses, uses, or manufactures the bill's additional rate of fire enhancements to existing law's penalties described above (generally a class D felony).

Machine Gun Definition Under the Penal Code (§ 4)

The bill also explicitly states that for purposes of the penal code in general, "machine gun" includes any convertible pistol that is possessed by an individual who also possesses a pistol converter.

§§ 5–9 — UNFINISHED FRAME OR UNFINISHED LOWER RECEIVER

Clarifies that "unfinished frame or lower receiver" refers to "unfinished frame or unfinished lower receiver," redefines the term, and makes corresponding changes throughout; prohibits anyone without a local dealer permit from (1) advertising, selling, or delivering them, (2) offering or exposing them for sale or delivery, or (3) possessing them with the intent to deliver them or sell them at retail

Under current law, "unfinished frame or lower receiver" means a blank, casting, or machined body intended to be turned into the frame or lower receiver of a firearm, with additional machining, and which has been formed or machined to the point where most major machining operations have been completed to turn the blank, casting, or machined body into a frame or lower receiver of a firearm, even if the fire-control cavity area of the blank, casting, or machined body is still completely solid and unmachined. Current law also specifies that an "unfinished frame or lower receiver" is not a firearm as defined under federal law.

The bill clarifies that "unfinished frame or lower receiver" refers to an "unfinished frame or unfinished lower receiver" and makes

corresponding changes throughout. It also redefines the term to mean a blank, casting, forging, printing, extrusion, machined body, or similar item that (1) has reached a stage in manufacture where it may readily be completed into the frame or receiver of a functional firearm; or (2) is marketed or sold to the public as the frame or receiver of a functional firearm once completed. The bill maintains existing law's general prohibition on purchasing, receiving, selling, delivering, or otherwise transferring them; procedural requirements for doing so if allowed; requirements for unique serial numbers or other identification marks; and penalties for violations.

The bill prohibits individuals or legal entities from advertising, selling, delivering, or offering or exposing for sale or delivery, or possessing with the intent to sell at retail or deliver, any unfinished frame or unfinished lower receiver in Connecticut without a local dealer permit.

§§ 10 & 11 — VOLUNTARY DELIVERY OR SURRENDER OF FIREARMS OR AMMUNITION TO POLICE

Explicitly allows anyone to deliver or surrender any firearm or ammunition they possess to DESPP or a local police department, which must then hold them for at least 14 days, up to a maximum of two years; establishes a process for returning these items to transferors and destroying those that are not returned

The bill explicitly allows anyone to deliver or surrender any firearm or ammunition they possess to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) or a local police department who must then hold them for at least 14 days, up to a maximum of two years. (In practice, DESPP currently has a form (DPS-293-C) and process by which lawful owners may surrender their firearms or ammunition to the State Police for immediate destruction or for appropriate use within the department.)

The bill requires the departments to exercise due care in receiving and holding delivered or surrendered firearms and ammunition and establishes a process under which (1) the items may be returned to transferors after 14 days and (2) unreturned items must be destroyed after two years.

(The bill's process is in addition to other processes under existing law on the (1) disposition of firearms and ammunition that are delivered or surrendered by people who become ineligible to possess them (CGS § 29-36k) and (2) relinquishment of assault weapons (CGS § 53-202e).)

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026, except the provisions on DESPP giving notice about the bill and creating a return request form are effective upon passage.

Return and Destruction of Delivered or Surrendered Firearms

Under the bill, anyone who delivers or surrenders a firearm or ammunition they possess to DESPP or a local police department may request its return starting 15 days after and for up to two years. A request must include a completed and signed form the bill requires the DESPP commissioner to create.

When DESPP or a local police department receives a return request, the department must review the request and make the firearm or ammunition available for retrieval within five days if it confirms the requestor (1) submitted the signed DESPP form, (2) was legally entitled to possess the firearm or ammunition at the time the item was delivered or surrendered, and (3) is not otherwise disqualified from possessing the item.

If a firearm or ammunition has not been collected within two years after it was delivered or surrendered, the bill requires the department holding the item to cause it to be destroyed after giving written notice to the person who delivered or surrendered it. The notice must be made at least 90 days before the date the item will be destroyed.

DESPP Notice and Return Request Form

Within 30 days after the bill's passage, the DESPP commissioner must, within available appropriations, post a written notice on the department's website about the above provisions on voluntarily delivered or surrendered firearms and ammunition. The notice must include (1) directions on how to request the return of those items and

the requirements that requestors must satisfy and (2) that items not collected within two years will be destroyed.

The bill also requires the commissioner, by October 1, 2027, to promulgate and make available on the department's website a form for requesting the return of firearms and ammunition delivered or surrendered under the bill.

Background — Related Bill

HB 5459 (File 254), favorably reported by the Public Safety and Security Committee, explicitly allows anyone to relinquish any firearms they own, other than assault weapons, to a police department or DESPP.

§ 12 — PISTOL PERMIT FEE REQUIRED REFUND

Requires local handgun permitting authorities to refund \$70 to applicants if the authority does not act within statutorily established timeframes

The bill requires local handgun permitting authorities to partially refund the applicant's fees if the authorities do not complete their duties (such as by failing to act on an application) within statutorily established timeframes.

By law, handgun permits are issued under a two-part process, requiring approval from both the local permitting authority and DESPP. The local official investigates an applicant, including through a background check, and issues a temporary state permit; the State Police conduct state and national criminal history record checks on the applicant and issue a five-year state permit.

By law, as part of the handgun permitting process, applicants must pay a \$140 fee and the local permitting authority retains \$70. The bill instead requires the local authority to refund that \$70 to the applicant if it does not complete its duties within certain timeframes. Under the bill, issuing a refund in this way does not discharge the local permitting authority's obligation to complete its duties after the timeframe expires.

Unchanged by the bill, applicants must also pay to cover the cost of an FBI national criminal history records check. As under existing law,

once a temporary state permit is approved, the local permitting authority forwards the other \$70 to the DESPP commissioner.

Background — Local Permitting Authority Duties

By law, the local permitting authority must inform the applicant whether the permit has been approved or denied within eight weeks after receiving an application. The local permitting authority must also take the applicant's fingerprints or use any other method of positive identification and forward the fingerprints and positive identifying information to the State Police Bureau of Identification within five business days.

Existing law allows the local permitting authority to issue a temporary state permit before a national criminal history check has been received. Once the national criminal history check has been received by the local permitting authority, the local permitting authority has one week to decide on the permit and notify the applicant. If the results have not been received within eight weeks, the permitting authority must inform the applicant of the delay in writing.

A "local permitting authority" is the chief of police or, where there is no police chief, the municipality's chief executive officer (CEO) (or the resident state trooper or relevant state police officer designated by the municipality's CEO).

Background — Related Bill

HB 5454 (File 272), favorably reported by the Public Safety and Security Committee, has similar provisions on pistol permit fee partial refunds.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 24 Nay 12 (03/24/2026)