

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to storage of handguns in private  
3           conveyances and vessels; amending s. 790.25, F.S.;  
4           providing requirements for storage of handguns in  
5           private conveyances and vessels; providing  
6           definitions; requiring law enforcement agencies to  
7           engage in a specified promotional campaign; requiring  
8           certain firearms education, safety, and training  
9           courses to include instruction on the requirements for  
10          storage of handguns in private conveyances and  
11          vessels; amending s. 790.175, F.S.; revising required  
12          warnings for transfer or sale of firearms; providing  
13          penalties; providing a declaration of important state  
14          interest; providing effective dates.

15  
16          WHEREAS, on average, at least one gun is stolen from a car  
17          every nine minutes in the United States, and

18          WHEREAS, the rate of gun thefts from cars has tripled in  
19          the last decade, showing both consistent increases nearly every  
20          year and a marked spike during the COVID-19 pandemic, and

21          WHEREAS, a decade ago, roughly a quarter of gun thefts were  
22          from cars, but in 2022, over half of gun thefts were from cars,  
23          and

24 WHEREAS, guns are most commonly stolen from cars parked at  
 25 residences, demonstrating the importance of securely storing  
 26 guns at all times and locations, and

27 WHEREAS, cities in states with the weakest gun safety laws  
 28 see nearly 18 times the rate of gun thefts from cars as those in  
 29 states with the strongest gun laws, and

30 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that it is the  
 31 responsibility of parents to supervise their children under 18  
 32 years of age, NOW, THEREFORE,

33

34 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

35

36 **Section 1. Effective October 1, 2026, subsection (4) of**  
 37 **section 790.25, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

38 790.25 Lawful ownership, possession, and use of firearms  
 39 and other weapons.—

40 (4) POSSESSION IN PRIVATE CONVEYANCE.—

41 (a) 1. Except as provided in subparagraph 2. and  
 42 notwithstanding s. 790.01, a person 18 years of age or older who  
 43 is in lawful possession of a handgun or other weapon may possess  
 44 such a handgun or weapon within the interior of a private  
 45 conveyance if the handgun or weapon is securely encased or  
 46 otherwise not readily accessible for immediate use. A person who  
 47 possesses a handgun or other weapon as authorized under this  
 48 subparagraph ~~paragraph~~ may not carry the handgun or weapon on

49 his or her person.

50 2.a. A person may not store a handgun, whether loaded or  
51 unloaded, in an unoccupied, unsecured private conveyance or  
52 vessel unless the handgun is kept from ordinary observation and  
53 view and secured with a device or mechanism that is securely  
54 affixed to the private conveyance or vessel or kept locked  
55 within a trunk, utility or glove box, or other locked container.

56 b. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term:

57 (I) "Private conveyance" includes any motor vehicle as  
58 defined in s. 790.251(2)(b) other than a public conveyance.

59 (II) "Unsecured" means unlocked or otherwise left open to  
60 entry.

61 (III) "Vessel" has the same meaning as in s. 327.02.

62 c. Each law enforcement agency shall engage in a  
63 promotional campaign to educate the public and handgun owners  
64 regarding the requirements of sub-subparagraph a.

65 d. The curricula of the firearms education, safety, and  
66 training courses specified in s. 790.06(2)(h)1.-4. and 7. shall  
67 contain instruction on the requirements of sub-subparagraph a.

68 **Section 2. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 790.175,**  
69 **Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

70 790.175 Transfer or sale of firearms; required warnings;  
71 penalties.—

72 (1) Upon the retail commercial sale or retail transfer of  
73 any firearm, the seller or transferor shall deliver a written

74 warning to the purchaser or transferee, which warning states, in  
75 block letters not less than 1/4 inch in height:

76 "IT IS UNLAWFUL, AND PUNISHABLE BY IMPRISONMENT AND FINE, FOR  
77 ANY ADULT TO STORE OR LEAVE A FIREARM IN ANY PLACE WITHIN THE  
78 REACH OR EASY ACCESS OF A MINOR UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE OR TO  
79 KNOWINGLY SELL OR OTHERWISE TRANSFER OWNERSHIP OR POSSESSION OF  
80 A FIREARM TO A MINOR OR A PERSON OF UNSOUND MIND. A PERSON MAY  
81 NOT STORE A HANDGUN, WHETHER LOADED OR UNLOADED, IN AN  
82 UNOCCUPIED, UNSECURED PRIVATE CONVEYANCE OR VESSEL UNLESS THE  
83 HANDGUN IS KEPT FROM ORDINARY OBSERVATION AND VIEW AND SECURED  
84 WITH A DEVICE OR MECHANISM THAT IS SECURELY AFFIXED TO THE  
85 PRIVATE CONVEYANCE OR VESSEL OR KEPT LOCKED WITHIN A TRUNK,  
86 UTILITY OR GLOVE BOX, OR OTHER LOCKED CONTAINER."

87 (2) Any retail or wholesale store, shop, or sales outlet  
88 which sells firearms must conspicuously post at each purchase  
89 counter the following warning in block letters not less than 1  
90 inch in height:

91 "IT IS UNLAWFUL TO STORE OR LEAVE A FIREARM IN ANY PLACE WITHIN  
92 THE REACH OR EASY ACCESS OF A MINOR UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE OR TO  
93 KNOWINGLY SELL OR OTHERWISE TRANSFER OWNERSHIP OR POSSESSION OF  
94 A FIREARM TO A MINOR OR A PERSON OF UNSOUND MIND. A PERSON MAY  
95 NOT STORE A HANDGUN, WHETHER LOADED OR UNLOADED, IN AN  
96 UNOCCUPIED, UNSECURED PRIVATE CONVEYANCE OR VESSEL UNLESS THE  
97 HANDGUN IS KEPT FROM ORDINARY OBSERVATION AND VIEW AND SECURED  
98 WITH A DEVICE OR MECHANISM THAT IS SECURELY AFFIXED TO THE

99 PRIVATE CONVEYANCE OR VESSEL OR KEPT LOCKED WITHIN A TRUNK,  
100 UTILITY OR GLOVE BOX, OR OTHER LOCKED CONTAINER."

101 **Section 3.** It is the intent of the Legislature to provide  
102 for the most efficient and effective deterrent to juvenile theft  
103 of handguns from vessels and conveyances, tailored to local  
104 conditions and resources. Therefore, the Legislature determines  
105 and declares that this act fulfills an important state interest.

106 **Section 4.** Except as otherwise expressly provided in this  
107 act, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law.