

SENATE, No. 3974

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 16, 2024

Sponsored by:

Senator JOSEPH P. CRYAN

District 20 (Union)

SYNOPSIS

Provides indemnity to firearm retail dealers participating in suicide prevention efforts.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning firearm retail dealers and amending P.L.2019,
2 c.167.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. Section 1 of P.L.2019, c.167 (C.2C:58-2.12) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 1. a. The Attorney General, in consultation with the
10 Commissioner of Health, shall establish a suicide prevention course
11 curriculum and suicide prevention informational materials for
12 firearm retail dealers who sell firearms or operate a firing range in
13 this State.

14 b. The Attorney General shall notify firearm retail dealers of
15 the course curriculum established pursuant to subsection a. of this
16 section and encourage their participation in a training course. The
17 training course shall be made available by the Department of Law
18 and Public Safety in a classroom setting or on an Internet website.
19 The training course shall include:

20 (1) methods to recognize signs of suicidal tendencies or
21 characteristics in firearm purchasers or renters;

22 (2) suicide intervention strategies to reduce the incidence of
23 attempted and completed suicides among persons purchasing or
24 renting a firearm; and

25 (3) information regarding available community services and
26 counseling programs developed to prevent suicide.

27 c. The Attorney General shall distribute the suicide prevention
28 informational materials established pursuant to subsection a. of this
29 section to each firearm retail dealer who sells firearms or operates a
30 firing range in this State. The informational materials shall advise
31 customers on methods to prevent firearms from being accessible to
32 a friend or family member in crisis. A firearm retail dealer who
33 sells firearms or operates a firing range shall make available the
34 informational materials at each retail purchase counter.

35 d. A person shall not have a cause of action for any loss or
36 damages caused by any act or omission resulting from participation
37 in any training or the distribution of informational materials
38 undertaken or attempted in good faith pursuant to this section,
39 unless such loss or damages were caused by willful or wanton
40 misconduct.

41 (cf: P.L.2019, c.167, s.1)

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43 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

STATEMENT

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This bill amends current law to provide indemnity to firearm retail dealers who participate in suicide prevention efforts offered by the State.

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Current law provides firearm retail dealers who sell firearms or operate a firing range in this State the opportunity to participate in training course for suicide prevention. Current law also requires firearm retail dealers distribute informational suicide prevention materials provided by the Attorney General. This bill provides that a person would not have a cause of action for loss or damages against a firearm retail dealer resulting from the dealer's participation in a course or distribution of informational materials, except for loss or damage caused by willful or wanton misconduct.