JAN 1 6 2008

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FIREARM AMMUNITION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that a new technology is 2 presently available, known as ammunition coding, that would enable law enforcement to enhance the investigation of crimes 3 involving the discharge of a firearm. Ammunition coding is a 4 bullet identification technology that creates an identification 5 of bullets to the particular type of firearm and manufacturer. 6 7 Ammunition coding utilizes laser etching on the back of each bullet with an alpha-numeric serial number. The ammunition is 8 9 sold with that coding, which is recorded electronically in a statewide database along with the identification of the 10 purchaser or transferee. A bullet found at a crime scene could 11 12 then be readily traced to its last known owner. 13 The purpose of this Act is to require ammunition

14 manufactured or sold in this State to be coded, and to establish 15 a statewide database of the ammunition's coding.

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1	SECTION 2. Chapter 134, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is		
2	amended by adding two new sections to be appropriately		
3	designated and to read as follows:		
4	" §134- Ammunition coding. (a) Beginning January 1,		
5	2009, all ammunition manufactured, sold, or utilized in the		
6	State shall contain an identification code that is etched or		
7	otherwise embossed onto the shell of the ammunition, whether in		
8	number or letter or any combination thereof, of the manufacturer		
9	and type of firearm that uses that ammunition. A manufacturer		
10	who violates this subsection shall be liable for a civil fine of		
11	\$5,000 for each piece of uncoded ammunition manufactured or		
12	sold.		
13	(b) Beginning January 1, 2009, it shall be unlawful for a		
14	person registered under section 134-3 to sell or transfer any		
15	ammunition not containing an identification code required under		
16	subsection (a). A person who violates this subsection shall be		
17	liable for a civil fine of \$1,000 for each piece of uncoded		
18	ammunition sold or transferred.		
19	(c) Beginning January 1, 2009, it shall be unlawful for		
20	any person arriving in the State to bring or by any other manner		
21	cause to be brought into the State ammunition of any description		
22	that does not contain an identification code required under		
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1	subsectio	n (a). A person who violates this subsection shall be	
2	liable fo	r a civil fine of \$500 for each piece of uncoded	
3	ammunitio	n brought into this State.	
4	(b)	Not later than January 1, 2009, a person licensed	
5	under sec	tion 134-3 shall surrender all non-coded ammunition	
6	remaining	in the retailer's inventory to the county police	
7	department for disposal.		
8	<u>§134</u>	- Ammunition coding system database. (a) The	
9	attorney	general shall maintain an ammunition coding system	
10	database	for the purpose of maintaining an electronic record of	
11	all ammun	ition coded under section 134 The ammunition	
12	coding sy	stem database shall contain the following information	
13	on every	coded piece of ammunition:	
14	(1)	Name of the manufacturer;	
15	(2)	Type of firearm intended to be used with the	
16		ammunition;	
17	(3)	Name of the licensed retailer under section 134-31	
18		selling the coded ammunition;	
19	(4)	The name and other pertinent information of the	
20		person, other than a licensed retailer under section	
21		134-31, transferring or selling the coded ammunition;	
22		and	
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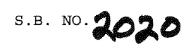


1	(5)	In the case of a licensed dealer under section 134-31,
2		the name person and other pertinent information of the
3		person to whom the coded firearm is sold or
4		transferred.
5	(b)	A person licensed to sell or manufacture firearms
6	under sect	ion 134-31, and every other non-licensed person
7	selling or	transferring coded ammunition shall register the sale
8	<u>or transfe</u>	er, as applicable, with the attorney general on
9	registrati	on forms containing pertinent information as
10	prescribed	by the attorney general. Any person who violates
11	this subse	ection shall be liable for a civil fine of \$1,000 per
12	piece of u	incoded ammunition.
13	(c)	The attorney general shall maintain an electronic
14	database c	of coded ammunition containing the information obtained
15	from the r	registration form under subsection (b). The electronic
16	database s	hall be accessible by county police departments, the
17	department	of public safety, and the department of the attorney
18	general fo	or purposes of crime investigation."
19	SECTI	ON 3. New statutory material is underscored.
20	SECTI	ON 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.
21		

INTRODUCED BY: <u>Clarence & Snihiken</u> Will Supro

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Report Title:

Firearms; Ammunition Coding

Description:

Requires ammunition manufactured or sold to be coded; requires the attorney general to maintain an electronic database of coded ammunition.

