



The Florida House of Representatives

Paul Renner
Speaker

NEWS RELEASE

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Legislation Amending Minimum Age for Purchase or Transfer of Certain Firearms Passes First House Committee

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. *(March 13, 2023)* — Today, House Bill 1543, which sets the minimum age for the purchase or transfer of a long gun to 18, passed the House Criminal Justice Subcommittee. The legislation aligns Florida law regarding the purchase of long guns with the majority of other states in America.

“The Florida House is restoring the ability of young adults to exercise their Second Amendment rights,” said Speaker Paul Renner (R-Palm Coast). “Florida allows 18-20-year-old adults to obtain a long gun by having it gifted to them. This bill expands Second Amendment rights and improves public safety because it requires young adults who have the intent of purchasing a long gun to go through the background check process that is consistent with Florida law. I commend Chair Payne for filing this legislation and for his commitment to expanding constitutional rights.”

“All law-abiding adults in Florida should be able to exercise their constitutional rights,” said Representative Bobby Payne (R-Palatka). “Currently, Florida is among only a handful of states, like Hawaii and New York, who limit long gun sales to those 21 and up. Young adults who are 18-20 years old have been restricted from obtaining a long gun unless it was passed down or gifted to them. HB 1543 fixes that, reclaiming law-abiding Floridians’ constitutional liberty. I appreciate the support from Speaker Renner and from my colleagues who voted favorably today in the Criminal Justice Subcommittee.”

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