CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

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STATE OF MAINE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

131ST LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “   ” to H.P. 35, L.D. 60, “An Act to Require a 72-hour Waiting Period After the Sale of a Firearm”

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 25 MRSA §2015 is enacted to read:

§2015. Waiting period after sale of firearm

1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Agreement" means when a buyer and a seller reach an agreement for the purchase and the sale of a firearm.

B. "Buyer" means a person, not including a firearm dealer, who receives possession or ownership of a firearm through an agreement.

C. "Firearm" has the same meaning as in Title 17-A, section 2, subsection 12-A.

D. "Firearm dealer" means a person that is licensed as a dealer under 18 United States Code, Section 923 or that is required to be licensed as a dealer under that section.

E. "Seller" means a person or firearm dealer that owns a firearm and that is transferring ownership of the firearm to a buyer pursuant to an agreement.

2. Waiting period. A seller may not knowingly deliver a firearm to a buyer pursuant to an agreement without withholding delivery of the firearm for at least 72 hours after the agreement.

3. Penalty. This subsection applies to violations of subsection 2.

A. A seller who violates subsection 2 commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than $200 and not more than $500 may be adjudged.
B. A seller who violates subsection 2 after having previously been adjudicated as 
violating subsection 2 commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than $500 
and not more than $1,000 may be adjudged.

4. Application. This section does not apply to:

A. The sale of a firearm if the seller knows that the buyer is:

   (1) A law enforcement officer; or

   (2) A person who desires to purchase a firearm for use in promoting the public 
       interest incidentally to the person's employment as a bank guard or armed truck 
       guard or as a similar type of employee; or

B. The sale of a firearm to a firearm dealer.'

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section 
number to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill. The 
amendment adds definitions for "buyer" and "seller," clarifying that the 72-hour waiting 
period is required when a person or firearm dealer sells a firearm to a person. The 
amendment also removes the portion of the bill that requires a firearm dealer to be subject 
to the requirements of conducting a national instant criminal background check.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)