

HOUSE No. 2632

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, February 23, 1956.

The committee on Bills in the Third Reading, to whom was referred the Bill to provide for the return of unlawfully possessed firearms to the lawful owner (House, No. 1656), report recommending that the same be amended by the substitution of the accompanying bill (House, No. 2632).

For the committee,

JOSEPH P. GRAHAM.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-Six.

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE RETURN OF UNLAWFULLY POSSESSED FIREARMS TO THE LAWFUL OWNER.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 269 of the General Laws is hereby amended
2 by striking out section 10, as most recently amended by
3 chapter 160 of the acts of 1955, and inserting in place
4 thereof the following section:—

5 *Section 10.* Whoever, except as provided by law, car-
6 ries on his person, or carries on his person or under his
7 control in a vehicle, a pistol or revolver, loaded or
8 unloaded, without permission under section one hundred
9 and thirty-one of chapter one hundred and forty, or
10 whoever so carries any stiletto, dagger, dirk knife, slung
11 shot, metallic knuckles or sawed off shotgun, or whoever,
12 when arrested upon a warrant for an alleged crime or
13 when arrested while committing a crime or a breach or
14 disturbance of the public peace, is armed with, or has
15 on his person, or has on his person or under his control
16 in a vehicle, a billy or dangerous weapon other than
17 those herein mentioned, shall be punished by imprison-
18 ment for not less than two and one half years nor more
19 than five years in the state prison or for not less than
20 six months nor more than two and one half years in a
21 jail or house of correction except that, if the court finds
22 that the defendant has not been previously convicted of
23 a felony, he may be punished by a fine of not more than
24 fifty dollars or by imprisonment for not more than two
25 and one half years in a jail or house of correction, or
26 whoever, except as provided by law, possesses a machine
27 gun as defined in section one hundred and twenty-one

28 of chapter one hundred and forty, without permission
29 under said section one hundred and thirty-one shall be
30 punished by imprisonment in the state prison for life or
31 for any term of years, and upon conviction the pistol
32 or other article shall, unless otherwise ordered by the
33 court, be confiscated by the commonwealth. The pistol
34 or article so confiscated shall, by the authority of the
35 written order of the court or trial justice, be forwarded
36 by common carrier to the commissioner of public safety,
37 who, upon receipt of the same, shall notify said court or
38 justice thereof. Said commissioner may sell or destroy
39 the same, and, in case of a sale, after paying the cost of
40 forwarding the article, shall pay over the net proceeds
41 to the commonwealth.

42 The court may, if the pistol or other article was lost
43 by or stolen from a person lawfully in possession of it,
44 order its return to such person, and where it has been
45 the finding of the court that a person has been guilty of
46 unlawful possession of a firearm, but makes the further
47 finding that such possession was in ignorance of the law,
48 the court may order the return of said firearm to its
49 owner upon his compliance with those regulations rela-
50 tive to the establishment of lawful possession.

The first part of the book is devoted to a general history of the world, from the beginning of time to the present day. The author discusses the various civilizations that have flourished on the earth, and the progress of human knowledge and industry. He also touches upon the political and social changes that have shaped the course of history.

The second part of the book is a detailed account of the history of the British Empire, from its early beginnings in the sixteenth century to its greatest extent in the nineteenth century. The author describes the expansion of British power across the globe, and the impact of British rule on the various colonies. He also examines the internal development of the United Kingdom, and the role of the British Empire in the world.

The third part of the book is a history of the United States, from its founding in 1776 to the present day. The author discusses the political and social development of the young nation, and the role of the United States in the world. He also touches upon the various conflicts that have shaped the course of American history, and the progress of the American people.

The fourth part of the book is a history of the world from 1800 to the present day. The author discusses the various revolutions and wars that have shaped the world, and the progress of human knowledge and industry. He also touches upon the political and social changes that have shaped the world, and the role of the various nations in the world.

The fifth part of the book is a history of the world from the present day to the future. The author discusses the various predictions and theories about the future of the world, and the progress of human knowledge and industry. He also touches upon the political and social changes that are expected to shape the world, and the role of the various nations in the world.