

By Mr. Sclafani of Watertown (by request), petition of Arthur MacDonnell for legislation to restrict the possession and sale of handguns. Public Safety.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Three.

**AN ACT RESTRICTING THE POSSESSION AND REGULATE THE SALE  
OF HANDGUNS.**

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

1 Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the  
2 possession of a handgun by any person except a member of a  
3 police force, security officer, military personnel, collectors or  
4 persons involved in handgun competition shall be punishable by  
5 a term in state prison of from two and one-half to five years.  
6 To qualify as a collector or person involved in handgun com-  
7 petition a person must first have passed a special handgun test  
8 to be administered by the department of public safety, must  
9 have no prior criminal record, and must be registered with the  
10 department of public safety. He shall also transport the guns  
11 only when they are unloaded and in a locked case, and shall  
12 store them only at a gun club or in a locked cabin in his home.

13 No person shall sell handguns without first obtaining a  
14 special license to be issued by the department of public safety.  
15 No sale shall be made to any person not possessing a handgun  
16 license issued by the department of public safety. Records of  
17 each and every sale shall be maintained by all dealers and all  
18 guns and ammunition must be stored in an area deemed safe  
19 by the department of public safety. All dealers shall be subject  
20 to inspection without notice to insure such safekeeping.

21 Any person now in possession of a handgun may surrender it  
22 to the department of public safety and be reimbursed the fair  
23 market value of such gun. All such guns shall then become the  
24 property of the commonwealth.

