

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 589, As Amended in the Senate

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO FIREARMS MANUFACTURED IN IDAHO; TO PROVIDE A SHORT TITLE; TO PRO-
2 VIDE LEGISLATIVE INTENT; AMENDING CHAPTER 33, TITLE 18, IDAHO CODE, BY
3 THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 18-3315A, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE PROHI-
4 BITIONS ON REGULATION OF CERTAIN FIREARMS, FIREARM ACCESSORIES OR AM-
5 MUNITION BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, TO PROVIDE EXCEPTIONS, TO PROVIDE
6 REQUIREMENTS FOR MARKETING OF FIREARMS IN IDAHO AND TO PROVIDE APPLICA-
7 BILITY; AND PROVIDING SEVERABILITY.
8

9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

10 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. This act may be cited as the "Idaho Firearms
11 Freedom Act."

12 SECTION 2. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. The Legislature declares that the au-
13 thority for this act is the following:

14 (1) The Tenth Amendment to the United States Constitution guarantees to
15 the states and their people all powers not granted to the federal government
16 elsewhere in the Constitution and reserves to the state and people of Idaho
17 certain powers as they were understood at the time that Idaho was admitted to
18 statehood in 1890. The guaranty of those powers is a matter of contract be-
19 tween the state and people of Idaho and the United States as of the time that
20 the compact with the United States was agreed upon and adopted by Idaho and
21 the United States in 1890.

22 (2) The Ninth Amendment to the United States Constitution guarantees to
23 the people rights not granted in the Constitution and reserves to the people
24 of Idaho certain rights as they were understood at the time that Idaho was
25 admitted to statehood in 1890. The guaranty of those rights is a matter of
26 contract between the state and people of Idaho and the United States as of the
27 time that the compact with the United States was agreed upon and adopted by
28 Idaho and the United States in 1890.

29 (3) The regulation of intrastate commerce is vested in the states under
30 the Ninth and Tenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, particu-
31 larly if not expressly preempted by federal law. Congress has not expressly
32 preempted state regulation of intrastate commerce pertaining to the manu-
33 facture on an intrastate basis of firearms, firearms accessories, and ammu-
34 nition.

35 (4) The Second Amendment to the United States Constitution reserves to
36 the people the right to keep and bear arms as that right was understood at
37 the time that Idaho was admitted to statehood in 1890, and the guaranty of
38 the right is a matter of contract between the state and people of Idaho and
39 the United States as of the time that the compact with the United States was
40 agreed upon and adopted by Idaho and the United States in 1890.

41 (5) Section 11, Article I, of the Constitution of the State of Idaho
42 clearly secures to Idaho citizens, and prohibits government interference

1 with, the right of individual Idaho citizens to keep and bear arms. This
2 constitutional protection in the Idaho Constitution, which was approved by
3 Congress and the people of Idaho, and the right exists as it was understood at
4 the time that the compact with the United States was agreed upon and adopted
5 by Idaho and the United States in 1890.

6 (6) In 2009, the Idaho Legislature adopted House Joint Memorial No.
7 4, which stated findings of the Legislature claiming sovereignty under the
8 Tenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States over all powers
9 not otherwise enumerated and granted to the federal government by the
10 Constitution.

11 (7) In enacting this law, the Idaho legislators are declaring their in-
12 tention of Idaho becoming the freest state in the Union.

13 SECTION 3. That Chapter 33, Title 18, Idaho Code, be, and the same is
14 hereby amended by the addition thereto of a NEW SECTION, to be known and des-
15 ignated as Section 18-3315A, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

16 18-3315A. PROHIBITION OF FEDERAL REGULATION OF CERTAIN FIREARMS. (1)
17 As used in this section:

18 (a) "Borders of Idaho" means the boundaries of Idaho described in chap-
19 ter 1, title 31, Idaho Code.

20 (b) "Firearms accessories" means items that are used in conjunction
21 with or mounted upon a firearm but are not essential to the basic func-
22 tion of a firearm including, but not limited to, telescopic or laser
23 sights, magazines, flash or sound suppressors, folding or aftermarket
24 stocks and grips, speedloaders, ammunition, ammunition carriers and
25 lights for target illumination.

26 (c) "Generic and insignificant parts" includes, but is not limited to,
27 springs, screws, nuts and pins.

28 (d) "Manufactured" means that a firearm, a firearm accessory, or ammu-
29 nition has been created from basic materials for functional usefulness
30 including, but not limited to, forging, casting, machining or other
31 processes for working materials.

32 (2) A personal firearm, a firearm accessory, or ammunition that is
33 manufactured commercially or privately in Idaho and that remains within the
34 borders of Idaho is not subject to federal law or federal regulation, includ-
35 ing registration, under the authority of congress to regulate interstate
36 commerce. It is declared by the legislature that those items have not trav-
37 eled in interstate commerce. This section applies to a firearm, a firearm
38 accessory or ammunition that is manufactured in Idaho from basic materials
39 and that can be manufactured without the inclusion of any significant parts
40 imported from another state.

41 (3) It is declared by the legislature that generic and insignificant
42 parts that have other manufacturing or consumer product applications are not
43 firearms, firearms accessories or ammunition, and their importation into
44 Idaho and incorporation into a firearm, a firearm accessory or ammunition
45 manufactured in Idaho does not subject the firearm, firearm accessory or am-
46 munition to federal regulation. It is declared by the legislature that basic
47 materials, such as unmachined steel and unshaped wood, are not firearms,
48 firearms accessories or ammunition and are not subject to congressional
49 authority to regulate firearms, firearms accessories and ammunition under

1 interstate commerce as if they were actually firearms, firearms accessories
2 or ammunition. The authority of congress to regulate interstate commerce in
3 basic materials does not include authority to regulate firearms, firearms
4 accessories and ammunition made in Idaho from those materials. Firearms
5 accessories that are imported into Idaho from another state and that are
6 subject to federal regulation as being in interstate commerce do not subject
7 a firearm to federal regulation under interstate commerce because they are
8 attached to or used in conjunction with a firearm in Idaho.

9 (4) Subsections (2) and (3) of this section do not apply to:

10 (a) A firearm that cannot be carried and used by one (1) person;

11 (b) A firearm that has a bore diameter greater than one and one-half (1
12 1/2) inches and that uses smokeless powder, not black powder, as a pro-
13 pellant;

14 (c) Ammunition with a projectile that explodes using an explosion of
15 chemical energy after the projectile leaves the firearm; or

16 (d) A firearm that discharges two (2) or more rounds of ammunition with
17 one (1) activation of the trigger or other firing device.

18 (5) A firearm manufactured or sold in Idaho under this section shall
19 have the words "Made in Idaho" clearly stamped on a central metallic part,
20 such as the receiver or frame.

21 (6) This section applies to firearms, firearms accessories and ammuni-
22 tion that are manufactured as defined in subsection (1) and retained in Idaho
23 after October 1, 2010.

24 SECTION 4. The provisions of this act are hereby declared to be sever-
25 able and if any provision of this act or the application of such provision to
26 any person or circumstance is declared invalid for any reason, such declara-
27 tion shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this act.