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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2ND SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for criminal penalties for a person who provides fire arms to juveniles if such firearms are thereafter used for the commission of a criminal offense.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. CASTEN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for criminal penalties for a person who provides fire arms to juveniles if such firearms are thereafter used for the commission of a criminal offense.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Juvenile Firearms
5 Safety Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. UNLAWFUL ACTS.**

2 Section 922 of title 18, United States Code, is
3 amended by adding at the end the following:

4 “(aa)(1) It shall be unlawful for a person who is 18
5 years of age or older to—

6 “(A) knowingly provide a firearm, other
7 than a handgun, to a juvenile (as such term is
8 defined in subsection (x)(5)), knowing or having
9 reasonable cause to believe that the juvenile in-
10 tends to use such firearm for self-harm or in
11 the commission of a crime; or

12 “(B) knowingly store or keep any firearm
13 that has moved in, or that has otherwise af-
14 fected, interstate or foreign commerce on the
15 premises of a residence, vehicle, or facility
16 under the control of the person if—

17 “(i) the person knows, or reasonably
18 should know, that a juvenile is likely to
19 gain unauthorized access to the firearm;
20 and

21 “(ii) a juvenile obtains the firearm
22 and uses the firearm in the commission of
23 a crime or causes injury or death to such
24 juvenile, or any other individual.

1 “(2) For the purposes of paragraph (1) a fact
2 finder may consider other relevant factors, including
3 if the person—

4 “(A) has received outreach about concerns
5 about the juvenile’s mental health from the ju-
6 venile, the juvenile’s parent or guardian, other
7 parents, school administration, law enforce-
8 ment, medical professionals, or other adults;

9 “(B) has knowledge of prior acts of vio-
10 lence against others by the juvenile; or

11 “(C) has knowledge of suicidality on the
12 part of the juvenile, including previous acts of
13 self harm.

14 “(3) Paragraph (1)(B) does not apply to a per-
15 son if the person—

16 “(A) keeps the firearm—

17 “(i) secure using a secure gun storage
18 or safety device; or

19 “(ii) in a location which a reasonable
20 person would believe to be secure; or

21 “(B) carries the firearm on his or her per-
22 son or within such close proximity thereto that
23 the person can readily retrieve and use the fire-
24 arm as if the person carried the firearm on his
25 or her person.

1 Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to pre-
2 vent a juvenile from engaging in lawful activities in-
3 volving the use of a firearm, with the permission of
4 the parent or guardian of the juvenile. Nothing in
5 this subsection shall be construed to affect any exist-
6 ing law related to consequences of a minor providing
7 a firearm to another minor or to affect any existing
8 law related to an adult's responsibility for a crime
9 committed by a third party minor who did not ac-
10 cess the adult's weapon directly.”.

11 **SEC. 3. PENALTIES.**

12 Section 924(a) of title 18, United States Code, is
13 amended by adding at the end the following:

14 “(9) Whoever knowingly violates subsection (aa)
15 of section 922—

16 “(A) shall be fined under this title, impris-
17 oned for not more than 1 year, or both;

18 “(B) if the firearm is used in the commis-
19 sion of a crime, shall be fined under this title,
20 imprisoned for not more than 2 years, or both;

21 “(C) if the juvenile obtains the firearm
22 pursuant to a violation of (aa)(1)(B), and the
23 juvenile causes injury or death to such juvenile,
24 or any other individual, shall be fined under

1 this title, imprisoned for not more than 5 years,
2 or both; or

3 “(D) if a person provides the juvenile with
4 the firearm in violation of (aa)(1)(A), and the
5 juvenile causes injury or death to such juvenile,
6 or any other individual, shall be fined under
7 this title, imprisoned for not more than 10
8 years, or both.”.