



HOUSE BILL 508: Firearm Safe Storage Awareness Initiative.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee:	House Health. If favorable, re-refer to Appropriations, Health and Human Services. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	April 12, 2019
Introduced by:	Reps. McNeill, White, C. Smith, Sauls	Prepared by:	Jessica Boney Staff Attorney
Analysis of:	First Edition		

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 508 would require the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to create a two year statewide firearm safe storage awareness initiative to educate the public, including facilitating the distribution of gun locks and the development of a website, toolkit and outreach process.*

BILL ANALYSIS:

Section 1 requires DHHS to launch a two year statewide initiative to educate the public on the importance of the safe storage of firearms and to facilitate the distribution of gun locks.

Section 2 requires by July 1, 2020 for DHHS to develop a website to provide the following information: importance of safe storage, methods of safe storage, contact information for obtaining free gun locks, State law related to storage of firearms, links to various resources, and access to a toolkit of information to guide local communities in launching similar local initiatives.

Section 3 requires DHHS to develop and implement an outreach process to circulate the information and toolkit to the public and local communities.

Section 4 allows DHHS to contract with a third-party to launch the initiative.

Section 5 prohibits using the initiative or any allocated funds to advocate for the creation of new laws or revision of existing laws regulating firearms.

Section 6 appropriates \$86,500 in nonrecurring funds for 2019-2020 and \$69,200 in nonrecurring funds for 2020-2021 from the General Fund to DHHS for costs associated with launching the initiative, including the purchase and distribution of gun locks.

Section 7 requires DHHS to report to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services by September 1, 2020 on the progress of the initiative.

EFFECTIVE DATE: HB 508 would be effective July 1, 2019.

Karen Cochrane-Brown
Director



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Legislative Analysis
Division
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