



This Bill Analysis reflects the contents of the bill as it was presented in committee.

# SENATE BILL 67: Firearm Safe Storage Awareness Initiative.

2023-2024 General Assembly

<b>Committee:</b>	Senate Judiciary. If favorable, re-refer to Appropriations/Base Budget. If favorable, re-refer to Rules and Operations of the Senate	<b>Date:</b>	February 14, 2023
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Sens. Hanig, Britt, Perry	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Robert Ryan Anna Parsons Committee Co-Counsel
<b>Analysis of:</b>	First Edition		

**OVERVIEW:** Senate Bill 67 would create a statewide firearm safe storage awareness initiative to educate the public about safe firearm storage, to facilitate the distribution of gun locks, and to provide local communities with a toolkit to launch local firearm safe storage initiatives.

As introduced, this bill was identical to H72, as introduced by Reps. Carson Smith, Clemmons, White, K. Baker, which is currently in House Judiciary 2.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** Senate Bill 67 would require the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) to collaborate with the Wildlife Resources Commission (Commission) to launch a two-year statewide initiative to educate the public about proper firearm storage and to distribute gun locks. The initiative would include the following components:

- The Commission would develop a website educating the public about the importance of safe firearm storage, methods of firearm storage, State firearm storage laws, and how to get free gun locks. The website would also provide local communities with a toolkit to help launch firearm safe storage initiatives locally.
- The Department would develop and implement an outreach process for disseminating the information and toolkit developed by the Commission. The Department would also provide technical assistance to local communities wanting to launch their own initiatives.

Senate Bill 67 would allow the Department and Commission to contract with a third-party entity to help launch the initiative. Funds would need to be appropriated during the 2023-2024 fiscal year for implementation of the initiative.

The Department, in collaboration with the Commission, would be required to submit a report to the Joint Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services detailing progress by September 1, 2024.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This act would become effective July 1, 2023.

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