

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5874

To ensure that certain operations, functions, and services of the Federal Government relating to enforcement of firearms laws and firearm export licensing continue during a lapse in appropriations.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 31, 2025

Mr. CLINE (for himself, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. HUNT, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mr. HARRIS of North Carolina, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. BURLISON, Ms. BOEBERT, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. GOODEN, Ms. MACE, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. DOWNING, Mr. FINE, and Mr. MOORE of West Virginia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To ensure that certain operations, functions, and services of the Federal Government relating to enforcement of firearms laws and firearm export licensing continue during a lapse in appropriations.

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

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Firearm Access During
3 Shutdowns Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. CONTINUATION OF CERTAIN FIREARM-RELATED**
5 **OPERATIONS DURING GOVERNMENT SHUT-**
6 **DOWN.**

7 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The operations, functions, and
8 services described in subsection (b) shall be deemed to re-
9 late to an emergency involving the safety of human life
10 or the protection of property for purposes of section 1342
11 of title 31, United States Code, and the employees car-
12 rying out those operations, functions, and services shall
13 be deemed to be excepted employees, as defined in section
14 1341(c) of that title.

15 (b) **OPERATIONS, FUNCTIONS, AND SERVICES.**—The
16 operations, functions, and services described in this sub-
17 section are the operations, functions, and services of—

18 (1) the National Instant Criminal Background
19 Check System of the Federal Bureau of Investiga-
20 tion, including the processing of background checks
21 in support of the operations of the Directorate of
22 Enforcement Programs and Services of the Bureau
23 of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives;

24 (2) the Directorate of Enforcement Programs
25 and Services of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,
26 Firearms and Explosives;

1 (3) the Bureau of Industry and Security of the
2 Department of Commerce relating to firearms and
3 firearm-related products, including activities related
4 to processing of applications for export licenses; and

5 (4) the Directorate of Defense Trade Controls
6 of the Department of State relating to firearms and
7 firearm-related products, including activities related
8 to processing of applications for export licenses.

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