

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 923

To prohibit the importation, sale, manufacture, transfer, or possession of
.50 caliber rifles, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 4, 2025

Mr. CASTRO of Texas (for himself, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. FROST, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. CASAR, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. CARBAJAL, and Mr. VARGAS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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 prohibit the importation, sale, manufacture, transfer, or
possession of .50 caliber rifles, and for other purposes.

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 “Stop Arming Cartels
5 Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON RIFLES CAPABLE OF FIRING .50**
2 **CALIBER AMMUNITION.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 44 of title 18, United
4 States Code, is amended—

5 (1) in section 922, by adding at the end the fol-
6 lowing:

7 “(aa) RIFLES CAPABLE OF FIRING .50 CALIBER AM-
8 MUNITION.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
10 graph (2), it shall be unlawful for any person to im-
11 port, sell, manufacture, transfer, or possess, in or af-
12 fecting interstate or foreign commerce, a rifle capa-
13 ble of firing .50 caliber ammunition.

14 “(2) EXCEPTIONS.—

15 “(A) GOVERNMENT USE.—Paragraph (1)
16 shall not apply to the importation for, manufac-
17 ture for, sale to, transfer to, or possession by
18 the United States, a department or agency of
19 the United States, a State, or a department,
20 agency, or political subdivision of a State, of a
21 rifle capable of firing .50 caliber ammunition.

22 “(B) GRANDFATHERED RIFLES.—Para-
23 graph (1) shall not apply to the sale, transfer,
24 or possession of any rifle otherwise lawfully pos-
25 sessed on or before the date of enactment of the
26 Stop Arming Cartels Act of 2025.”; and

1 (2) in section 924(a)(1)(B), by striking “or
2 (q)” and inserting “(q), or (aa)”.

3 (b) INCLUSION OF CERTAIN RIFLES AS FIREARMS
4 UNDER NATIONAL FIREARMS ACT.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 5845(a) of the In-
6 ternal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking
7 “and (8) a destructive device” and inserting “(8) a
8 destructive device; and (9) a rifle which is capable
9 of firing .50 caliber ammunition and is lawfully pos-
10 sessed on or before the date of enactment of the
11 Stop Arming Cartels Act of 2025”.

12 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

13 (A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-
14 graph (B), the amendments made by this sub-
15 section shall take effect on the date which is 12
16 months after the date of enactment of this Act.

17 (B) REGISTRATION.—

18 (i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding
19 subparagraph (A) or any other provision of
20 law, any person possessing a rifle which is
21 capable of firing .50 caliber ammunition
22 which is not registered to such person in
23 the National Firearms Registration and
24 Transfer Record shall register each such
25 rifle so possessed with the Secretary in

1 such form and manner as the Secretary
2 may require within the 12-month period
3 immediately following the date of enact-
4 ment of this Act. No fee or tax shall be im-
5 posed with respect to any registration re-
6 quired under this subparagraph.

7 (ii) INCLUSION IN REGISTRY.—Any
8 registration described in clause (i) shall be-
9 come a part of the National Firearms Reg-
10 istration and Transfer Record. No infor-
11 mation or evidence required to be sub-
12 mitted or retained by a natural person to
13 register a firearm under this subparagraph
14 shall be used, directly or indirectly, as evi-
15 dence against such person in any criminal
16 proceeding with respect to a prior or con-
17 current violation of law.

18 (C) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph:

19 (i) NATIONAL FIREARMS REGISTRA-
20 TION AND TRANSFER RECORD.—The term
21 “National Firearms Registration and
22 Transfer Record” means the registry es-
23 tablished pursuant to section 5841 of the
24 Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

1 (ii) SECRETARY.—The term “Sec-
 2 retary” has the same meaning given such
 3 term under section 7701(a)(11)(B) of the
 4 Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

5 **SEC. 3. EXCEPTION TO COVERAGE UNDER PROTECTION OF**
 6 **LAWFUL COMMERCE IN ARMS ACT.**

7 Section 4(5)(A) of the Protection of Lawful Com-
 8 merce in Arms Act (15 U.S.C. 7903(5)(A)) is amended—
 9 (1) in clause (v), by striking “or” at the end;
 10 (2) in clause (vi), by striking the period at the
 11 end and inserting “; or”; and
 12 (3) by adding at the end the following:

13 “(vii) an action brought against a
 14 manufacturer or seller that knowingly sells
 15 or transfers a qualified product, or at-
 16 tempts or conspires to do so, knowing or
 17 having reasonable cause to believe that the
 18 transaction is prohibited under section
 19 805(c) of the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin
 20 Designation Act (21 U.S.C. 1904(c)).”.

21 **SEC. 4. FEDERAL FIREARM PROHIBITOR FOR SIGNIFICANT**
 22 **FOREIGN NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS AND**
 23 **CERTAIN OTHER FOREIGN PERSONS.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 922(d) of title 18, United
 25 States Code, is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (10), by striking “or” at the
2 end;

3 (2) by redesignating paragraph (11) as para-
4 graph (12);

5 (3) by inserting after paragraph (10) the fol-
6 lowing:

7 “(11) is—

8 “(A) a significant foreign narcotics traf-
9 ficker publicly identified by the President in a
10 report under subsection (b) or (h)(1) of section
11 804 of the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designa-
12 tion Act (21 U.S.C. 1903); or

13 “(B) a foreign person designated by the
14 Secretary of the Treasury under section 805(b)
15 of the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation
16 Act (21 U.S.C. 1904(b)); or”; and

17 (4) in paragraph (12), as so redesignated, by
18 striking “(10)” and inserting “(11)”.

19 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO
20 NICS.—Section 103 of the Brady Handgun Violence Pre-
21 vention Act (34 U.S.C. 40901) is amended—

22 (1) in subsection (b)(2)(D), by inserting “or
23 that transfer of a firearm or ammunition to the indi-
24 vidual would violate subsection (d)(11) of such sec-

tion 922” after “section 922 of title 18, United States Code,”;

(2) in subsection (e)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “or to whom transfer of a firearm would violate subsection (d)(11) of such section 922,” after “section 922 of title 18, United States Code or State law,”;

(B) in subparagraph (C), by inserting “or that transfer of a firearm or ammunition to the person would violate subsection (d)(11) of such section 922,” after “section 922 of title 18, United States Code,”;

(C) in subparagraph (F)(iii)(I), by striking “(g) or (n)” and inserting “(d)(11), (g), or (n)”; and

(D) in subparagraph (G)(i), by striking “(g) or (n)” and inserting “(d)(11), (g), or (n)”; and

(3) in subsection (g), by inserting “or that transfer of a firearm to a prospective transferee would violate subsection (d)(11) of such section 922,” after “section 922 of title 18, United States Code or State law,”; and

(4) in subsection (i)(2)—

1 (A) by striking “persons,” and inserting
2 “persons who are”; and

3 (B) by inserting before the period at the
4 end the following: “, or to whom transfer of a
5 firearm would violate subsection (d)(11) of such
6 section 922”.

7 **SEC. 5. ADDING RIFLES TO MULTIPLE FIREARM SALES RE-**
8 **PORTING REQUIREMENTS.**

9 Section 923(g)(3)(A) of title 18, United States Code,
10 is amended by striking “pistols, or revolvers, or any com-
11 bination of pistols and revolvers” and inserting “pistols,
12 revolvers, or rifles, or any combination of pistols, revolvers,
13 and rifles”.

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