

**Subject** Reenactment of the amendment to the definition of trigger activator

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## Overview

In 2024, the legislature passed an amendment to the definition of “trigger activator” that made binary triggers illegal and increased penalties for the straw purchase of firearms. A binary trigger is a trigger that fires a bullet on the pull of a trigger and fires a second bullet on the release of the trigger. The amendment took effect on January 1, 2025. A straw purchase exists when someone who is eligible to purchase a firearm does so for the purpose of transferring the firearm to a person who is ineligible to purchase or possess a firearm. The increased penalties took effect on August 1, 2024.

The two provisions passed the legislature as part of a larger bill. An advocacy group challenged the ban on binary triggers, arguing that its passage violated the single subject requirement in Minnesota’s Constitution. The suit did not argue that the ban violates the Second Amendment. A district court found that the way in which the ban passed violated the single subject requirement and blocked enforcement of the ban. The state appealed and the case is currently before the court of appeals.

This bill would reenact the passage of the ban on binary triggers. The reenactment would be retroactive to January 1, 2025, but it would apply to crimes committed on or after the day following final enactment. It would also reenact the increased penalties for making a straw purchase and amend that law by repealing a subdivision that created an affirmative defense.

## Summary

Section	Description
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| 1 | <b>Reenactment of ban on binary triggers.</b><br>Reenacts Laws 2024, chapter 127, article 36, section 2, which amended the definition of “trigger activator” to include a trigger that fires one bullet on the pull of the trigger and a second bullet on the release of the trigger. Establishes that the reenactment is |
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Section	Description
	retroactive to January 1, 2025, but that it applies to crimes committed on or after the day following final enactment.
2	<b>Reenactment of changes to straw purchase crimes.</b> Reenacts Laws 2024, chapter 127, article 36, section 3, which increased the penalties for the straw purchase of firearms. Establishes that the reenactment is retroactive to August 1, 2024.
3	<b>Repealer.</b> Repeals section 624.7141, subdivision 4. That subdivision created an affirmative defense for certain straw purchases.



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