

Chapter 465

**(Senate Bill 443)**

AN ACT concerning

**Trafficking Regulated Firearms – Felony Classification**

FOR the purpose of altering the statute of limitations applicable to the offense of trafficking a regulated firearm; reclassifying the prohibition against transporting a regulated firearm into the State for the purpose of unlawfully selling or trafficking the firearm as a felony; and generally relating to trafficking regulated firearms.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings

Section 5–106(t)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2020 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Public Safety

Section 5–140

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

5–106.

(t) A prosecution for an offense under [§ 5–140, § 5–141,] § 5–141 or § 5–144 of the Public Safety Article, relating to straw sales of regulated firearms to prohibited persons or minors and to illegal sales, rentals, transfers, possession, or receipt of regulated firearms, shall be instituted within 3 years after the offense was committed.

**Article – Public Safety**

5–140.

(a) A dealer or other person may not transport a regulated firearm into the State for the purpose of unlawfully selling or trafficking of the regulated firearm.

(b) A person who violates this section is guilty of a [misdemeanor] **FELONY** and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding 10 years or a fine not exceeding \$25,000 or both.

(c) Each violation of this section is a separate crime.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2025.

**Approved by the Governor, May 13, 2025.**