

REFERENCE TITLE: **firearm destruction**

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-seventh Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2026

# **HB 2861**

Introduced by  
Representative Nguyen

## **AN ACT**

AMENDING SECTIONS 12-945, 13-3105, 13-3108 AND 13-4402, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; AMENDING TITLE 13, CHAPTER 40, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 13-4444; RELATING TO WEAPONS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 12-945, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
3 read:

4 12-945. Sale of property

5 A. If after thirty days' notice has been given the owner or person  
6 entitled to the property has not taken it away, the property may be sold.  
7 The proceeds shall be paid to the general fund of the jurisdiction from  
8 which the unclaimed property was received.

9 B. Notwithstanding subsection A of this section, if the property is  
10 a firearm, the agency shall sell the firearm to any business that is  
11 authorized to receive and dispose of the firearm under federal and state  
12 law and that shall sell the firearm to the public according to federal and  
13 state law, unless the firearm is otherwise prohibited from being sold  
14 under federal and state law. A law enforcement agency may trade a firearm  
15 that it has retained to a federal firearms licensed business for  
16 ammunition, weapons, equipment or other materials to be exclusively used  
17 for law enforcement purposes.

18 C. NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTIONS A AND B OF THIS SECTION, IF THE  
19 PROPERTY IS A FIREARM THAT IS INVOLVED IN AN OFFENSE IN VIOLATION OF TITLE  
20 13, CHAPTER 11 OR AN OFFENSE RESULTING IN SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURY AS  
21 DEFINED IN SECTION 13-105, THE PROPERTY MAY BE DESTROYED.

22 Sec. 2. Section 13-3105, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
23 read:

24 13-3105. Forfeiture of weapons and explosives

25 A. On the conviction of any person for a violation of any felony in  
26 this state in which a deadly weapon, dangerous instrument or explosive was  
27 used, displayed or unlawfully possessed by the person, the court shall  
28 order the article forfeited and sold within one year after its forfeiture  
29 to any business that is authorized to receive and dispose of the article  
30 under federal and state law and that shall sell the article to the public  
31 according to federal and state law, unless the article is otherwise  
32 prohibited from being sold under federal and state law, in which case it  
33 shall be destroyed or otherwise properly disposed.

34 B. On the conviction of any person for a violation of section  
35 13-2904, subsection A, paragraph 6 or section 13-3102, subsection A,  
36 paragraph 1 or 8, the court may order the forfeiture of the deadly weapon  
37 or dangerous instrument involved in the offense.

38 C. If at any time the court finds pursuant to rule 11 of the  
39 Arizona rules of criminal procedure that a person who is charged with a  
40 violation of this title is incompetent, the court shall order that any  
41 deadly weapon, dangerous instrument or explosive used, displayed or  
42 unlawfully possessed by the person during the commission of the alleged  
43 offense be forfeited and sold within one year after its forfeiture to any  
44 business that is authorized to receive and dispose of the article under  
45 federal and state law and that shall sell the article to the public

1 according to federal and state law, unless the article is otherwise  
2 prohibited from being sold under federal and state law, in which case it  
3 shall be destroyed or otherwise properly disposed.

4 D. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW, THE COURT MAY ORDER THE  
5 FORFEITURE OF A DEADLY WEAPON OR DANGEROUS INSTRUMENT THAT IS INVOLVED IN  
6 AN OFFENSE IN VIOLATION OF CHAPTER 11 OF THIS TITLE OR AN OFFENSE  
7 RESULTING IN SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURY.

8 Sec. 3. Section 13-3108, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
9 read:

10 13-3108. Firearms regulated by state; state preemption;  
11 injunction; civil penalty; cause of action;  
12 violation; classification; definition

13 A. Except as provided in subsection G of this section, a political  
14 subdivision of this state shall not enact any ordinance, rule or tax  
15 relating to the transportation, possession, carrying, sale, transfer,  
16 purchase, acquisition, gift, devise, storage, licensing, registration,  
17 discharge or use of firearms or ammunition or any firearm or ammunition  
18 components or related accessories in this state.

19 B. A political subdivision of this state shall not require the  
20 licensing or registration of firearms or ammunition or any firearm or  
21 ammunition components or related accessories or prohibit the ownership,  
22 purchase, sale or transfer of firearms or ammunition or any firearm or  
23 ammunition components, or related accessories.

24 C. A political subdivision of this state shall not require or  
25 maintain a record in any form, whether permanent or temporary, including a  
26 list, log or database, of any of the following:

27 1. Any identifying information of a person who leaves a weapon in  
28 temporary storage at any public establishment or public event, except that  
29 the operator of the establishment or the sponsor of the event may require  
30 that a person provide a government issued identification or a reasonable  
31 copy of a government issued identification for the purpose of establishing  
32 ownership of the weapon. The operator or sponsor shall store any provided  
33 identification with the weapon and shall return the identification to the  
34 person when the weapon is retrieved. The operator or sponsor shall not  
35 retain records or copies of any identification provided pursuant to this  
36 paragraph after the weapon is retrieved.

37 2. Except in the course of a law enforcement investigation, any  
38 identifying information of a person who owns, possesses, purchases, sells  
39 or transfers a firearm.

40 3. The description, including the serial number, of a weapon that  
41 is left in temporary storage at any public establishment or public event.

42 D. A political subdivision of this state shall not enact any rule  
43 or ordinance that relates to firearms and is more prohibitive than or that  
44 has a penalty that is greater than any state law penalty. A political  
45 subdivision's rule or ordinance that relates to firearms and that is

1 inconsistent with or more restrictive than state law, whether enacted  
2 before or after July 29, 2010, is null and void.

3 E. A political subdivision of this state shall not enact any  
4 ordinance, rule or regulation limiting the lawful taking of wildlife  
5 during an open season established by the Arizona game and fish commission  
6 unless the ordinance, rule or regulation is consistent with title 17 and  
7 rules and orders adopted by the Arizona game and fish commission. This  
8 subsection does not prevent a political subdivision from adopting an  
9 ordinance or rule restricting the discharge of a firearm within one-fourth  
10 mile of an occupied structure without the consent of the owner or occupant  
11 of the structure. For the purposes of this subsection:

12 1. "Occupied structure" means any building in which, at the time of  
13 the firearm's discharge, a reasonable person from the location where a  
14 firearm is discharged would expect a person to be present.

15 2. "Take" has the same meaning prescribed in section 17-101.

16 F. This state, any agency or political subdivision of this state  
17 and any law enforcement agency in this state shall not facilitate the  
18 destruction of a firearm or purchase or otherwise acquire a firearm for  
19 the purpose of destroying the firearm except as authorized by section  
20 13-3105, [13-4444](#) or 17-240.

21 G. This section does not prohibit a political subdivision of this  
22 state from enacting and enforcing any ordinance or rule pursuant to state  
23 law or relating to any of the following:

24 1. Imposing any privilege or use tax on the retail sale, lease or  
25 rental of, or the gross proceeds or gross income from the sale, lease or  
26 rental of, firearms or ammunition or any firearm or ammunition components  
27 at a rate that applies generally to other items of tangible personal  
28 property.

29 2. Prohibiting a minor who is unaccompanied by a parent,  
30 grandparent or guardian or a certified hunter safety instructor or  
31 certified firearms safety instructor acting with the consent of the  
32 minor's parent, grandparent or guardian from knowingly possessing or  
33 carrying on the minor's person, within the minor's immediate control or in  
34 or on a means of transportation a firearm in any place that is open to the  
35 public or on any street or highway or on any private property except  
36 private property that is owned or leased by the minor or the minor's  
37 parent, grandparent or guardian. Any ordinance or rule that is adopted  
38 pursuant to this paragraph shall not apply to a minor who is fourteen,  
39 fifteen, sixteen or seventeen years of age and who is engaged in any of  
40 the following:

41 (a) Lawful hunting or shooting events or marksmanship practice at  
42 established ranges or other areas where the discharge of a firearm is not  
43 prohibited.

44 (b) Lawful transportation of an unloaded firearm for the purpose of  
45 lawful hunting.

1 (c) Lawful transportation of an unloaded firearm for the purpose of  
2 attending shooting events or marksmanship practice at established ranges  
3 or other areas where the discharge of a firearm is not prohibited.

4 (d) Any activity that is related to the production of crops,  
5 livestock, poultry, livestock products, poultry products or ratites or  
6 storage of agricultural commodities.

7 3. The regulation of commercial land and structures, including a  
8 business relating to firearms or ammunition or their components or a  
9 commercial shooting range in the same manner as other commercial  
10 businesses. Notwithstanding any other law, this paragraph does not:

11 (a) Authorize a political subdivision to regulate the sale or  
12 transfer of firearms on property it owns, leases, operates or controls in  
13 a manner that is different than or inconsistent with state law. For the  
14 purposes of this subdivision, a use permit or other contract that provides  
15 for the use of property owned, leased, operated or controlled by a  
16 political subdivision shall not be considered a sale, conveyance or  
17 disposition of property.

18 (b) Authorize a political subdivision through a zoning ordinance to  
19 prohibit or otherwise regulate the otherwise lawful discharge of a firearm  
20 or maintenance or improvements directly related to the discharge on a  
21 private lot or parcel of land that is not open to the public on a  
22 commercial or membership basis.

23 (c) Authorize a political subdivision to regulate the otherwise  
24 lawful discharge of a firearm or maintenance or improvements directly  
25 related to the discharge on land that is used for agriculture or other  
26 noncommercial purposes.

27 4. Regulating employees or independent contractors of the political  
28 subdivision who are acting within the course and scope of their employment  
29 or contract. For the purposes of this paragraph, acting within the course  
30 and scope of their employment or contract does not include the lawful  
31 possession, carrying, transporting or storing of a firearm or other  
32 weapon:

33 (a) On real property that is owned by the employee or independent  
34 contractor.

35 (b) In or on a private vehicle or craft that is owned or operated  
36 by the employee or independent contractor unless the ordinance or rule  
37 violates another applicable federal or state law or regulation.

38 (c) Pursuant to section 12-781.

39 5. Limiting or prohibiting the discharge of firearms in parks and  
40 preserves except:

41 (a) As allowed pursuant to chapter 4 of this title.

42 (b) On a properly supervised range as defined in section 13-3107.

1 (c) In an area approved as a hunting area by the Arizona game and  
2 fish department. Any such area may be closed when deemed unsafe by the  
3 director of the Arizona game and fish department.

4 (d) To control nuisance wildlife by permit from the Arizona game  
5 and fish department or the United States fish and wildlife service.

6 (e) By special permit of the chief law enforcement officer of the  
7 political subdivision.

8 (f) As required by an animal control officer in performing duties  
9 specified in section 9-499.04 and title 11, chapter 7, article 6.

10 (g) In self-defense or defense of another person against an animal  
11 attack if a reasonable person would believe that deadly physical force  
12 against the animal is immediately necessary and reasonable under the  
13 circumstances to protect oneself or the other person.

14 H. Any ordinance, regulation, tax or rule that is enacted by a  
15 political subdivision in violation of this section is invalid and subject  
16 to a permanent injunction against the political subdivision from enforcing  
17 the ordinance, regulation, tax or rule. It is not a defense that the  
18 political subdivision was acting in good faith or on the advice of  
19 counsel.

20 I. If a court determines that a political subdivision has knowingly  
21 and wilfully violated this section, the court may assess a civil penalty  
22 of up to ~~fifty thousand dollars~~ \$50,000 against the political subdivision.

23 J. If a court determines that a person has knowingly and wilfully  
24 violated this section while acting in the person's official capacity  
25 through enactment of any ordinance, regulation, tax, measure, directive,  
26 rule, enactment, order or policy, the person may be subject to termination  
27 from employment to the extent allowable under state law.

28 K. A person or an organization whose membership is adversely  
29 affected by any ordinance, regulation, tax, measure, directive, rule,  
30 enactment, order or policy that is in violation of this section may file a  
31 civil action for declaratory and injunctive relief and actual damages  
32 against the political subdivision in any court of this state having  
33 jurisdiction over any defendant in the action. If the plaintiff prevails  
34 in the action, the court shall award both:

35 1. Reasonable attorney fees and costs.

36 2. The actual damages incurred not to exceed ~~one hundred thousand~~  
37 ~~dollars~~ \$100,000.

38 L. A violation of any ordinance established pursuant to subsection  
39 G, paragraph 5 of this section is a class 2 misdemeanor unless the  
40 political subdivision designates a lesser classification by ordinance.

41 M. For the purposes of this section, "political subdivision"  
42 includes a political subdivision acting in any capacity, including under  
43 police power, in a proprietary capacity or otherwise.

1       Sec. 4. Section 13-4402, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
2 read:

3       13-4402. Implementation of rights and duties

4       A. Except as provided in ~~sections~~ SECTION 13-4405, ~~and 13-4433 and~~  
5 section 13-4408, subsection B AND SECTIONS 13-4433 AND 13-4444, the rights  
6 and duties that are established by this chapter arise on the arrest or  
7 formal charging of the person or persons who are alleged to be responsible  
8 for a criminal offense against a victim. The rights and duties continue  
9 to be enforceable pursuant to this chapter until the final disposition of  
10 the charges, including acquittal or dismissal of the charges, all  
11 post-conviction release and relief proceedings and the discharge of all  
12 criminal proceedings relating to restitution. If a defendant is ordered  
13 to pay restitution to a victim, the rights and duties continue to be  
14 enforceable by the court until restitution is paid.

15       B. If a defendant's conviction is reversed and the case is returned  
16 to the trial court for further proceedings, the victim has the same rights  
17 that were applicable to the criminal proceedings that led to the appeal or  
18 other post-conviction relief proceeding.

19       C. After the final termination of a criminal prosecution by  
20 dismissal with prejudice or acquittal, a person who has received notice  
21 and the right to be present and heard pursuant to the victims' rights act,  
22 article II, section 2.1, Constitution of Arizona, any implementing  
23 legislation or court rule is no longer entitled to such rights.

24       Sec. 5. Title 13, chapter 40, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended  
25 by adding section 13-4444, to read:

26       13-4444. Notice of right to request destruction of deadly  
27 weapon or dangerous instrument; destruction of  
28 deadly weapon or dangerous instrument

29       A. THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY THAT HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR  
30 INVESTIGATING A CRIMINAL OFFENSE COMMITTED AGAINST A VICTIM SHALL GIVE THE  
31 VICTIM NOTICE THAT THE VICTIM MAY REQUEST THE DESTRUCTION OF ANY DEADLY  
32 WEAPON OR DANGEROUS INSTRUMENT THAT WAS INVOLVED IN AN OFFENSE IN  
33 VIOLATION OF CHAPTER 11 OF THIS TITLE OR AN OFFENSE RESULTING IN SERIOUS  
34 PHYSICAL INJURY. THE PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE SHALL NOTIFY THE LAW ENFORCEMENT  
35 AGENCY THAT IS IN POSSESSION OF THE DEADLY WEAPON OR DANGEROUS INSTRUMENT  
36 OF THE VICTIM'S REQUEST TO DESTROY THE DEADLY WEAPON OR DANGEROUS  
37 INSTRUMENT.

38       B. ON REQUEST BY THE VICTIM, THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY SHALL  
39 DESTROY THE DEADLY WEAPON OR DANGEROUS INSTRUMENT AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE  
40 AS PROVIDED BY LAW. ON NOTICE FROM THE APPLICABLE PROSECUTING AGENCY THAT  
41 THE DEADLY WEAPON OR DANGEROUS INSTRUMENT IS NO LONGER NEEDED AS EVIDENCE,  
42 THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY MAY DESTROY THE DEADLY WEAPON OR DANGEROUS  
43 INSTRUMENT.