

ORDINANCE NO. _____

An ordinance adding Section 55.17 to the Los Angeles Municipal Code to prohibit the retail sale of certain types of live ammunition in the City of Los Angeles.

WHEREAS, state law permits the ownership and use of firearms for certain lawful purposes, such as self-defense, hunting, and target shooting;

WHEREAS, ammunition designed for offensive purposes or in order to inflict high trauma is neither necessary nor appropriate for such lawful purposes;

WHEREAS, ammunition of particularly large caliber, containing hard metals, or designed to be fired with more power than ordinary ammunition poses a particular danger because of its ability to travel long distances, penetrate hard barriers, and maintain lethal momentum; and

WHEREAS, state law requires a hunting license for the hunting of large game in the State of California;

NOW THEREFORE:

**THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS**

Section 1. Section 55.17 is added to the Los Angeles Municipal Code to read:

SEC. 55.17. HIGH-TRAUMA AMMUNITION SALES PROHIBITED.

(a) As used in this section, the term "firearm ammunition" shall mean any live ammunition for use in a pistol, revolver, shotgun, rifle, or other firearm, as that term is defined in Section 103.314 of this code. It shall not include component parts of cartridges.

(b) No person shall sell, give, transfer ownership of, or transfer any of the following types of firearm ammunition:

(1) Any ammunition equal to or greater than .50 caliber either by designation or by actual measurement;

(2) Any ammunition utilizing a projectile containing any amount of iron, steel, tungsten, brass, bronze, beryllium copper, or depleted uranium;

(3) Any ammunition utilizing a projectile that shows any degree of magnetic attraction;

(4) Any ammunition designated by either its manufacturer or the Sporting Arms and Ammunition Institute as plus P (+P), plus P plus (+P+), magnum, or maximum.

(c) No person shall sell, give, transfer ownership of, or transfer any of the following types of firearm ammunition unless at the time of sale or transfer, the purchaser or transferee exhibits a current valid hunting license issued by the State of California:

(1) Any shotgun ammunition containing either sabot or triple zero (000) buckshot;

(2) Any rifle ammunition greater than .41 caliber either by designation or by actual measurement.

(d) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any sale or transfer of firearm ammunition which is prohibited under state law.

(e) The provisions of Subsections (b) and (c) of this section shall not apply where the purchaser or transferee is any of the following:

(1) A law enforcement agency;

(2) An agency duly authorized to perform law enforcement duties;

(3) A state or local correctional facility;

(4) A private security company licensed to do business in the State of California;

(5) A person described in Section 12302 or 12322 of the California Penal Code;

(6) A federal law enforcement officer;

(7) A person who is properly identified as a full-time paid peace officer, as defined in Section 830.1, 830.2, 830.4, or 830.5 of the California Penal Code, and who is authorized to, and does, carry a firearm during the course of his or her employment as a peace officer;

(8) An off-duty sworn peace officer who displays proper agency identification which identifies him or her as an active sworn peace officer;

(9) A retired sworn peace officer who displays identification which identifies him or her as a retired sworn peace officer with a concealed firearm endorsement;

(10) A reserve peace officer who displays identification which identifies him or her as a reserve peace officer who is authorized to carry a firearm;

(11) A person who has been issued a permit to carry a concealed weapon under the authority of California Penal Code Section 12050;

(12) A security guard licensed under the authority of California Penal Code Section 12033;

(13) A firearms dealer who has been issued a Federal Firearms License and a Certificate of Eligibility by the State of California;

(14) The purchaser of curio or collector ammunition. Ammunition shall be deemed curio or collector only if it falls within one of these categories:

(A) It was manufactured prior to 1899;

(B) It is certified by the curator of a municipal, state, or federal museum which exhibits firearms ammunition to be a curio or relic of museum interest; or

(C) It derives a substantial part of its monetary value from the fact that it is novel, rare, or bizarre, or because of its association with some historical figure, period, or event. Proof of qualification under this category may be established by evidence of present value and evidence that similar ammunition is not available except as a curio or collector item or that the value of similar ammunition available in ordinary commercial channels is substantially less.

(f) Any violation of this section shall constitute a misdemeanor.

Sec. 2. The provisions of this ordinance shall become operative on January 1, 2003.

Sec. 3. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this ordinance and have it published in accordance with Council policy, either in a newspaper circulated in the City of Los Angeles or by posting for ten days in three public places in the City of Los Angeles: one copy on the bulletin board located in the Main Street lobby of City Hall; one copy on the bulletin board located at the ground level at the Los Angeles Street entrance to the Los Angeles Police Department; and one copy on the bulletin board located at the Temple Street entrance to the Los Angeles County Hall of Records.

I hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was passed by the Council of the City of Los Angeles, at its meeting of _____

J. MICHAEL CAREY, City Clerk

By _____
Deputy

Approved _____

Mayor

Approved as to Form and Legality

JUNE 24, 2002

ROCKARD J. DELGADILLO, City Attorney

By  _____
James Axtell
Deputy City Attorney

File No.