



**H.B. 279**  
126th General Assembly  
(As Introduced)

Rep. Hughes

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**BILL SUMMARY**

- Creates the offense of "defacing identification marks of a handgun" by prohibiting any person from changing, altering, removing, or obliterating the name of the manufacturer, model, manufacturer's serial number, or other mark of identification on a handgun.
- Creates the offense of "possessing a defaced handgun" by prohibiting any person from possessing a handgun knowing or having reasonable cause to believe that the name of the manufacturer, model, manufacturer's serial number, or other mark of identification on the handgun has been changed, altered, removed, or obliterated.

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**CONTENT AND OPERATION**

**Defacing identification marks of a handgun**

The bill prohibits any person from changing, altering, removing, or obliterating the name of the manufacturer, model, manufacturer's serial number, or other mark of identification on a handgun. A violation of this prohibition is "defacing identification marks of a handgun," a misdemeanor of the first degree or, if the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to defacing identification marks of a handgun, a felony of the fifth degree. (R.C. 2923.26(A)(1) and (B)(1).)

**Possessing a defaced handgun**

The bill prohibits any person from possessing a handgun knowing or having reasonable cause to believe that the name of the manufacturer, model, manufacturer's serial number, or other mark of identification on the handgun has been changed, altered, removed, or obliterated. A violation of this prohibition is "possessing a defaced handgun," a misdemeanor of the first degree or, if the

offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to possessing a defaced handgun, a felony of the fifth degree. (R.C. 2923.26(A)(2) and (B)(2).)

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**HISTORY**

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	05-26-05	p. 875

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