

File No. 260195

Committee Item No. _____
Board Item No. 49

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Board of Supervisors Meeting

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Date: March 3, 2026

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Prepared by: Calvin Ho
Prepared by: _____

Date: February 27, 2026
Date: _____

1 [Supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 1974 (Stefani) - Firearms: Voluntary Firearm
2 Storage Program]

3 **Resolution supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 1974, introduced by**
4 **Assembly Member Catherine Stefani, which will authorize law enforcement agencies to**
5 **create voluntary firearm storage programs; authorize law enforcement agencies to**
6 **ensure the firearm has not been previously reported lost, stolen, or involved in a crime;**
7 **and require law enforcement agencies to destroy a firearm that was not retrieved.**

8
9 WHEREAS, In 2023, gun violence accounted for 46,728 deaths in the United States,
10 marking the third-highest annual total ever recorded according to data from the Centers for
11 Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); and

12 WHEREAS, While homicides peaked during the pandemic, firearm suicides have only
13 increased year-over-year with an average of 2,338 Americans dying by firearm suicide every
14 month between January and June 2025; and

15 WHEREAS, Research shows that more than half of suicide deaths in the United States
16 result from self-inflicted firearm injuries and that temporarily separating people in crisis from
17 firearms can significantly reduce suicide and firearm-related injuries or death; and

18 WHEREAS, Gun violence disproportionately impacts our veteran community as
19 veterans are three times more likely to die by firearm-assisted suicide than their civilian
20 counterparts, claiming the lives of approximately 13 veterans every day; and

21 WHEREAS, An estimated 4.6 million children live in households where at least one gun
22 is kept loaded and unlocked, increasing the risk that kids find guns and accidentally shoot
23 themselves or others, that the unlocked firearm is used as a mean for youth suicide, or that
24 the weapon is used in a homicide or mass shooting; and

25

1 WHEREAS, In California, under State Bill No. 368 (SB 368) (Portantino, 2023), dealers
2 are required to accept for storage a firearm transferred by an individual to prevent it from
3 being accessed or used during periods of crisis or heightened risk to the owner of the firearm
4 or members of their household; and

5 WHEREAS, Currently, there is no state guidance for a law enforcement agency
6 seeking to implement a voluntary temporary firearm relinquishment program to address the
7 gap in voluntary, out-of-home storage options left by the low rates of implementation of SB
8 368 (Portantino, 2023); and

9 WHEREAS, Assembly Bill No. 1974 (AB 1974) would authorize a local law
10 enforcement agency to create a voluntary firearm storage program that allows a person to
11 voluntarily transfer custody of their firearm to the local law enforcement agency for temporary
12 safekeeping purposes; and

13 WHEREAS, AB 1974 would additionally authorize a local law enforcement agency to
14 check a database to ensure the firearm has not previously been reported lost, stolen, or
15 involved in a crime; and AB 1974 would require a said law enforcement agency to destroy a
16 firearm that a person failed to retrieve; and

17 WHEREAS, San Francisco has been a national leader in gun violence prevention as
18 San Francisco Police Department implemented its own safe storage program in partnership
19 with Pierce’s Pledge, furthering San Francisco’s gun safety efforts that include other programs
20 such as gun buyback initiatives, Red Flag Laws, and the San Francisco Gun Violence
21 Restraining Order initiative, led by then-Supervisor Catherine Stefani; and

22 WHEREAS, Research shows that more than half of suicide deaths in the United States
23 result from self-inflicted firearm injuries and that temporarily separating people in crisis from
24 firearms can significantly reduce suicide and firearm-related injuries or death; and

25

1 WHEREAS, AB 1974 will build on San Francisco’s leadership by enabling local law
2 enforcement agencies to safely store firearms and help mitigate gun violence across the state;
3 now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
5 supports AB 1974 (Stefani) as a means of supporting gun safety in California; and, be it

6 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors encourages timely adoption
7 and implementation of 1974 to reduce the number of preventable lives lost in California; and,
8 be it

9 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors encourages law
10 enforcement agencies to educate the public, family law advocates, and veteran outreach
11 programs on the benefits of their program; and, be it

12 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors shall transmit a
13 copy of this resolution upon passage to the Governor of California, the President pro Tempore
14 of the California State Senate, the Speaker of the California Assembly, Assemblymember
15 Catherine Stefani, and the offices of San Francisco’s legislative delegation.

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AB-1974 Firearms: voluntary firearm storage program. (2025-2026)

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Date Published: 02/13/2026 09:00 PM

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2025–2026 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

NO. 1974

Introduced by Assembly Member Stefani

February 13, 2026

An act to add Section 25010 to the Penal Code, relating to firearms.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1974, as introduced, Stefani. Firearms: voluntary firearm storage program.

Existing law requires a person, who claims title to a firearm that is in the custody of a court or law enforcement agency and wishes to have it returned, to make an application for a determination by the Department of Justice as to whether the applicant is eligible to possess a firearm. Under existing law, a law enforcement agency or court that has taken custody of a firearm is prohibited from returning the firearm to an individual unless specified requirements are met, including, but not limited to, requiring the person to be eligible to possess a firearm and verifying that the firearm is not listed as stolen and the firearm has been recorded in the Automated Firearms System in the name of the person, as specified. Existing law requires any weapon that was carried unlawfully for specified crimes to be surrendered to specified law enforcement entities. Existing law requires weapons surrendered pursuant to these provisions to be destroyed by the law enforcement entity.

This bill would authorize a law enforcement agency, as defined, to create a voluntary firearm storage program that allows a person to voluntarily transfer custody of their firearm to the local law enforcement agency for temporary safekeeping purposes to prevent firearm violence, suicide, and other injury. The bill would authorize a law enforcement agency adopting this program to provide clear instructions on the procedure to voluntarily transfer custody of a firearm and to provide explicit instructions on the process for requesting return of the firearm, as specified. Upon receipt of a firearm, the bill would authorize a law enforcement agency to, among other things, check a certain database to ensure the firearm has not previously been reported lost, stolen, or involved in a crime and ensure that the requesting person is eligible to possess firearms when the firearm is returned to the person. The bill would require a law enforcement agency to destroy a firearm that a person failed to retrieve at the end of a time period specified by the law enforcement agency.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: no Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to encourage law enforcement agencies to make family law advocates and veterans' outreach programs aware of programs created by the law enforcement agencies that allow a person to voluntarily transfer custody of their firearm to a law enforcement agency for temporary safekeeping purposes to prevent firearm violence, suicide, and other injury.

SEC. 2. Section 25010 is added to the Penal Code, to read:

25010. (a) A law enforcement agency may create a voluntary firearm storage program that allows a person to voluntarily transfer custody of their firearm to the local law enforcement agency for temporary safekeeping purposes to prevent firearm violence, suicide, and other injury.

(b) A law enforcement agency adopting a program pursuant to this section shall not be held liable for damage to the firearms while the firearms are in the temporary custody of the agency.

(c) All of the following may be required as part of the program:

(1) A law enforcement agency shall have the capability to store a firearm for a minimum duration of one year.

(2) A law enforcement agency may do all of the following:

(A) Provide clear instructions on the procedure for a person to voluntarily transfer custody of their firearm to the law enforcement agency, and make the procedure available to the public on the agency's internet website in a manner that is consistent with the information that shall be posted in accordance with subdivision (h) of Section 13667.

(B) Provide explicit instructions on the process for requesting return of the firearms in accordance with Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 33850) of Division 11, including, but not limited to, by electronically submitting a Law Enforcement Release application for the return of a firearm via the California Firearms Application Reporting System.

(C) Provide clear information on the maximum amount of time that the law enforcement agency may store a firearm and on the disposition of a firearm after the firearm has exceeded the maximum storage time allowed by the local law enforcement agency. This information shall notify the person that their firearm or firearms shall be destroyed, returned to the person, or transferred to a federal firearms licensee to be sold.

(D) Upon receipt of a firearm:

(i) Check the Automated Firearms System to ensure the firearm has not previously been reported as lost or stolen or otherwise involved in a crime pursuant to Section 33855.

(ii) Update the Automated Firearms System to record the current disposition of the firearm pursuant to Section 11108.2.

(iii) Prior to the return of a firearm to a person requesting its return, the law enforcement agency shall ensure that the requesting person is eligible to possess firearms when the firearm is returned to the person pursuant to Section 33855.

(iv) Upon return or destruction of the firearm, a law enforcement agency shall update the Automated Firearms System to reflect the change in disposition pursuant to the agency's policy under Section 18005.

(d) Failure to retrieve the firearm at the end of a time period specified by the law enforcement agency shall result in the firearm being destroyed pursuant to the agency's policy under Section 18005.

(e) It is encouraged that a law enforcement agency makes family law advocates and veterans' outreach programs aware of the program.

(f) This section does not limit a law enforcement agency's ability to accept firearms for voluntary temporary firearm storage pursuant to any other authority.

(g) For purposes of this section, a law enforcement agency means a police department or sheriff's department.

From: [Rosas, Lorenzo \(BOS\)](#)
To: [BOS Legislation, \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Chung, Lauren \(BOS\)](#); [Sherrill, Stephen \(BOS\)](#); [Donovan, Dominica \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: D2 Introduction - Resolution - AB 1974 Support
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 3:22:09 PM
Attachments: [AB 1181 \(Haney\) Support Resolution - Introduction Form.pdf](#)
[AB 1974 Support Resolution LegVer1.doc](#)
[AB 1974 Support Resolution LegVer1.pdf](#)
[Bill Text - AB-1974 Firearms voluntary firearm storage program .pdf](#)

Hello,

Please see attached for the necessary documents for an introduction of a resolution from Supervisor Sherrill. The resolution is in support of Assembly Bill No. 1974 (Stefani).

I have cc'd Dominica Donovan in Supervisor Dorsey's office to confirm co-sponsorship.

The California State Association of Counties and the League of California Cities have **not** taken a support position the bill.

Best,

Lorenzo Rosas (*he/him*) | Legislative Director
Office of Supervisor Stephen Sherrill
San Francisco Board of Supervisors, District 2
City Hall, Room 256
(415) 554-7752
<https://sfbos.org/supervisor-sherrill-district-2/>

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Introduction Form

(by a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor)



I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):

- 1. For reference to Committee (Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment)
- 2. Request for next printed agenda (For Adoption Without Committee Reference)
(Routine, non-controversial and/or commendatory matters only)
- 3. Request for Hearing on a subject matter at Committee
- 4. Request for Letter beginning with "Supervisor inquires..."
- 5. City Attorney Request
- 6. Call File No. from Committee.
- 7. Budget and Legislative Analyst Request (attached written Motion)
- 8. Substitute Legislation File No.
- 9. Reactivate File No.
- 10. Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the Board on

The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following (please check all appropriate boxes):

- Small Business Commission Youth Commission Ethics Commission
- Planning Commission Building Inspection Commission Human Resources Department

General Plan Referral sent to the Planning Department (proposed legislation subject to Charter 4.105 & Admin 2A.53):

- Yes No

(Note: For Imperative Agenda items (a Resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Agenda Form.)

Sponsor(s):

Subject:

Long Title or text listed:

Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor: