

# Michigan's Safe Storage Law



## Overview

Michigan's safe storage law, effective February 13, 2024, requires firearm owners to safely store their firearms when someone younger than 18 years old is, or is likely to be, present. This law is intended to protect children from injuries or death due to unintended access to firearms.

Some safe storage options include:

Cable Lock



Trigger Lock



Lock Box



Gun Safe



If a firearm owner stores or otherwise leaves a firearm unattended on either their property or someone else's, and a minor is, or likely will be, present, the firearm must be:

- Stored in a locked box or container, such as a gun case, lock box, or gun safe, or
- Unloaded and locked with a locking device, such as a cable lock or trigger lock

If the firearm owner arrives to someone else's property in their own motor vehicle and plans on leaving the firearm in the vehicle, and a minor is, or likely will be, present, the firearm must be:

- Stored in a locked box or container or unloaded and locked with a locking device, and the motor vehicle must be locked while unattended.

## Penalties

It is a **misdemeanor** if a minor accesses an improperly secured firearm and possesses or shows it off in public, or possesses or shows it off carelessly, recklessly or threateningly around someone else. It is a **felony** if a minor accesses a firearm and harms or kills themselves or others with it. In both cases, the firearm owner can face fines and jailtime for breaking the law.

## Exceptions

Penalties do not apply if:

- A minor obtains a firearm with the permission of their parent or guardian while under the supervision of their parent, guardian, or an authorized adult, and only uses or possesses the firearm for their employment, ranching, farming, target practice, or gun safety instruction
- A minor obtains a firearm for the purpose of hunting with permission from their parent or guardian and follows all applicable hunting laws
- A minor obtains a firearm through unlawful entry to the property where a firearm is being stored
- A minor obtains a firearm for the purpose of lawful self-defense or defense of another

Enrolled Senate Bill No. 79. (2023, Apr 13). State of Michigan 102nd Legislature. Retrieved February 7, 2024, from [https://legislature.mi.gov/documents/2023-2024/publicact/htm/2023-PA-0017.htm?utm\\_campaign=&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://legislature.mi.gov/documents/2023-2024/publicact/htm/2023-PA-0017.htm?utm_campaign=&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

Enrolled Senate Bill No. 80. (2023, Apr 13). State of Michigan 102nd Legislature. Retrieved February 7, 2024, from <https://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2023-2024/publicact/pdf/2023-PA-0016.pdf>



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