Bill Summary: Mandatory Minimums for Unlawful Purchase of Firearm  
(HB 1456, Rep. Hohenstein)

Bill summary: If passed, HB 1456 would create five-year mandatory prison sentences for a second or subsequent conviction for providing false information relating to the purchase of a firearm or while obtaining a concealed carry license. **FAMM opposes this bill.**

Bill status: *This bill is not yet law.* To become law, it must first be approved by committees, then passed by the Pennsylvania House and Senate, and signed by the governor.

What the bill would do: If passed, HB 1456 would create five-year mandatory minimum prison sentences for a second or subsequent offense of the following:

- Making a written false statement that the person does not believe to be true on a form relating to the purchase, delivery, or transfer of firearm under § 6109 (for a license for concealed carry of a firearm) or § 6111 (for selling or buying a firearm).
- Attempting to purchase a firearm or attempting to obtain a license to carry a firearm by a person who knows they are prohibited from possessing, using, controlling, selling, transferring or manufacturing a firearm.
- Making a false statement on an application for a license to carry a firearm under § 6109(c) (for a license for concealed carry of a firearm).
- Violating § 6111(g)(4) in connection with the purchase, delivery, or transfer of a firearm by knowingly and intentionally:
  - Making a materially false oral statement;
  - Making any materially false written statement; or
  - Willfully furnishing false identification to deceive the seller.

Why FAMM opposes HB 1456:
While we do not support people lying about their backgrounds while obtaining firearms or licenses to carry firearms, we also know that mandatory minimum sentences do not deter or prevent this behavior, and there is no evidence showing that long, mandatory minimum prison sentences stop or reduce gun violence.

Mandatory minimum sentences do, however, create one-size-fits-all punishments that are often unjust and incarcerate people who are not dangerous for far longer than necessary to protect public safety.