§ 2271. Title.

This Act shall be known as "The Minor Children Firearms Control Act of 2000."

Source: PL 12-17, § 1.

Commission Comment: PL 12-17 became effective on September 1, 2000. PL 12-17 contained the following findings and purpose, severability, and savings clause provisions:

Section 2. <u>Findings and Purpose</u>. The Legislature finds that there is a problem in the Commonwealth with minor children having access to firearms. Many firearm owners keep the weapon in their houses, where children can find it.

This Act has three purposes. First, the Legislature wishes to make it very clear that persons who allow minors access to firearms will be civilly liable for any damage that the firearms may cause, whether to the minor child or to any other person or property. Second, the Legislature wishes to impose criminal penalties on persons who deliberately give possession of firearms to minor children. Third, the Legislature also wishes to penalize persons who fail to secure their firearms in a reasonable manner so those minors do not have access to them.

. . .

Section 5. <u>Severability</u>. If any provision of this Act or the application of any such provision to any person or circumstance should be held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Act or the application of its provisions to persons or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid shall not be affected thereby.

Section 6. <u>Savings Clause</u>. This Act and any repealer contained herein shall not be construed as affecting any existing right acquired under contract or acquired under statutes repealed or under any rule, regulation or order adopted under the statutes. Repealers contained in this Act shall not affect any proceeding instituted under or pursuant to prior law. The enactment of this Act shall not have the effect of terminating, or in any way modifying, any liability, civil or criminal, which shall already be in existence at the date this Act becomes effective.