

- Allow sheriffs and court-approved federally licensed firearm dealers to charge domestic violence abusers a reasonable fee for the storage of their firearms while a relief from abuse order is in effect.
- The point is to enforce existing federal law and court orders that prohibit people who are subject to restraining orders from possessing firearms while the order is in effect.
- Many sheriffs would like to store these firearms now, but they lack the space or resources to do so. As a result, too many guns remain with abusers or they end up being stored by the defendant's friends or family members while the court order is in effect.
- The Administration will also seek a \$75K appropriation to create a revolving loan fund to assist with creating storage facilities. Sheriffs or FFLs that receive a loan would pay the State back over time through revenue from the fee and sale of firearms in the event fees are not paid.
- This fee proposal is narrow but critical to helping law enforcement and our courts ensure that the firearms are securely stored outside of the home during what can be the most dangerous time for victims of domestic violence.
- We suggest a few changes to the bill since it has passed the House. Changes on handout.
 1. Mostly technical changes.
 2. First two clarify what DPS will do – we initially proposed having DPS set the maximum fee for storage, a fee for storage of firearms has been set in the bill, but this would allow DPS to set the maximum fee on say storage of ammunition or other weapons.
 3. Suggest clarifying section (b)(1) to make clear this is only about storage of the very firearms or other weapons a court has ordered to be relinquished. (b)(1) is not intended to be any broader or narrower than the scope of the court's order.
 4. The Committee may want to consider a total cap on fees. Committee may also consider removing the fee entirely.
 5. **We suggest adding a new section stating that nothing in this provision is intended to prohibit any lawful sale of firearms.**
 6. Also suggest adding reference to the federal definition of firearms.