

State of Minnesota

HF XXXX / SF XXXX

A BILL FOR AN ACT

relating to public safety; establishing standards for precise and objective language in firearm legislation; prohibiting the use of subjective or undefined descriptive terminology; requiring technical definitions; establishing periodic review; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. SHORT TITLE.

This act may be cited as the “Arms Regulation and Measurement Standards Act” (ARMS Act).

“Measured. Defined. Enforced.”

Section 2. LEGISLATIVE INTENT.

The purpose of this act is to ensure that all firearm-related legislation in the State of Minnesota is written with clarity, precision, and objectivity.

The legislature finds that vague or subjective terminology leads to inconsistent interpretation, public confusion, and uneven enforcement.

This act requires that all firearm classifications and regulations be based strictly on measurable, technical characteristics.

Section 3. PROHIBITED SUBJECTIVE TERMINOLOGY.

(a) No firearm-related bill, statute, rule, or regulation shall include or rely upon subjective, undefined, or interpretive descriptors.

(b) Prohibited terms include, but are not limited to:

- “assault”
- “military-style”
- “tactical”
- “high-powered”

(c) The use of any such terms is strictly prohibited and shall not be permitted under any circumstance.

(d) Any attempt to reintroduce such terminology through alternate wording, implication, or substantially similar language shall be considered a violation of this section.

Section 4. REQUIREMENT FOR TECHNICAL CLASSIFICATION.

(a) All firearm classifications within Minnesota law must be based solely on objective, measurable criteria, including but not limited to:

- Action type
- Caliber
- Magazine capacity
- Barrel length
- Overall firearm length
- Rate of fire
- Method of operation

(b) Each criterion used must be clearly defined within the statute.

Section 5. DEFINITION STANDARDS.

(a) Any technical term introduced must include a clear definition within the same section.

(b) Definitions must:

- Be measurable and verifiable
- Avoid reliance on appearance or branding
- Be enforceable without subjective interpretation

(c) Undefined or vague terminology shall not be used.

Section 6. PERIODIC REVIEW AND UPDATE.

(a) Review every five (5) years.

(b) Purpose:

- Align with current technology
- Remove outdated language
- Maintain clarity

(c) Revisions must comply with this act.

Section 7. ENFORCEMENT AND VALIDITY.

(a) Any law using prohibited terms may be deemed unenforceable.

(b) Courts shall favor objective definitions.

Section 8. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision is invalid, the rest remains in effect.

Section 9. EFFECTIVE DATE.

Effective August 1, 2026.