



# Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997

## 1997 CHAPTER 5

### PART I

#### PROHIBITION OF WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION AND CONTROL OF SMALL-CALIBRE PISTOLS

##### *General prohibition of small firearms etc.*

#### **1 Extension of s.5 of the 1968 Act to prohibit certain small firearms etc.**

- (1) Section 5 of the <sup>M1</sup>Firearms Act 1968 (referred to in this Act as “the 1968 Act”) shall have effect with the following amendments.
- (2) In subsection (1) (which describes weapons which are prohibited by section 5), after paragraph (ab) there shall be inserted the following paragraph—
  - “(aba) any firearm which either has a barrel less than 30 centimetres in length or is less than 60 centimetres in length overall, other than an air weapon, a small-calibre pistol, a muzzle-loading gun or a firearm designed as signalling apparatus;”.
- (3) In paragraph (ab) (self-loading or pump-action rifles) of that subsection, for the word “rifle” there shall be substituted the words “rifled gun”.
- (4) In paragraph (ac) (self-loading and pump-action smooth-bore guns) after the word “not” there shall be inserted the words “an air weapon or”.
- (5) In paragraph (ad) (smooth-bore revolver guns), for the words from “loaded” to the end there shall be substituted the words “a muzzle-loading gun”.
- (6) After subsection (7) there shall be inserted the following subsections—
  - “(8) For the purposes of subsection (1)(aba) and (ac) above, any detachable, folding, retractable or other movable butt-stock shall be disregarded in measuring the length of any firearm.

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997, Cross Heading: General prohibition of small firearms etc.. (See end of Document for details)*

(9) Any reference in this section to a muzzle-loading gun is a reference to a gun which is designed to be loaded at the muzzle end of the barrel or chamber with a loose charge and a separate ball (or other missile).”

(7) The general prohibition by section 5 of the 1968 Act of firearms falling within subsection (1)(aba) of that section is subject to the special exemptions in sections 2 to 8 below.

[<sup>F1</sup>(7A) In sections 2 to 7 below any reference to subsection (1)(aba) of section 5 of the 1968 Act shall include a reference to subsection (2A) of that section as it applies in relation to a firearm specified in subsection (1)(aba) of that section.

(7B) In section 8 below the reference to subsection (1)(aba), (b) or (c) of section 5 of the 1968 Act shall include a reference to subsection (2A) of that section as it applies in relation to any weapon or ammunition specified in subsection (1)(aba), (b) or (c) of that section.]

(8) In sections 2 to 8 below any reference to a firearm certificate shall include a reference to a visitor’s firearm permit.

<sup>F2</sup>(9) .....

<b>Textual Amendments</b>	
<b>F1</b>	S. 1(7A)(7B) inserted (14.7.2014) by <a href="#">Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (c. 12)</a> , <b>ss. 108(9)</b> , 185(1) (with <a href="#">ss. 21, 33, 42, 58, 75, 93</a> ); S.I. 2014/949, art. 6(a)
<b>F2</b>	S. 1(9) repealed (1.2.1998) by <a href="#">1997 c. 64, s. 2(7)</a> , <b>Sch.</b> ; S.I.1997/3114, arts. 4, 5, <b>Sch. Pt. II</b>
<b>Modifications etc. (not altering text)</b>	
<b>C1</b>	S. 1(3) excluded (10.6.1997) by <a href="#">S.I. 1997/1535, arts. 3(b), 5</a> , <b>Sch. Pt. I</b>
<b>Commencement Information</b>	
<b>I1</b>	S. 1 wholly in force at 1.7.1997; s. 1 not in force at Royal Assent see s. 53(3)(4); s. 1 in force at 1.7.1997 by <a href="#">S.I. 1997/1535, art. 3(b)</a> , <b>Sch. Pt. I</b> (with effect as mentioned in <a href="#">arts. 4, 4A</a> (as amended by <a href="#">S.I. 1997/1536, art. 2</a> ) of the commencing Act)
<b>Marginal Citations</b>	
<b>M1</b>	<a href="#">1968 c. 27</a> .

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