

1 AN ACT to amend the Criminal Code of 1961 by changing  
2 Section 24-3.1.

3 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,  
4 represented in the General Assembly:

5 Section 5. The Criminal Code of 1961 is amended by  
6 changing Section 24-3.1 as follows:

7 (720 ILCS 5/24-3.1) (from Ch. 38, par. 24-3.1)

8 Sec. 24-3.1. Unlawful possession of firearms and firearm  
9 ammunition.

10 (a) A person commits the offense of unlawful possession  
11 of firearms or firearm ammunition when:

12 (1) He is under 18 years of age and has in his  
13 possession any firearm of a size which may be concealed  
14 upon the person; or

15 (2) He is under 21 years of age, has been convicted  
16 of a misdemeanor other than a traffic offense or adjudged  
17 delinquent and has any firearms or firearm ammunition in  
18 his possession; or

19 (3) He is a narcotic addict and has any firearms or  
20 firearm ammunition in his possession; or

21 (4) He has been a patient in a mental hospital  
22 within the past 5 years and has any firearms or firearm  
23 ammunition in his possession; or

24 (5) He is mentally retarded and has any firearms or  
25 firearm ammunition in his possession; or

26 (6) He has in his possession any explosive bullet.

27 For purposes of this paragraph "explosive bullet" means  
28 the projectile portion of an ammunition cartridge which  
29 contains or carries an explosive charge which will explode  
30 upon contact with the flesh of a human or an animal.

31 "Cartridge" means a tubular metal case having a projectile

1 affixed at the front thereof and a cap or primer at the rear  
2 end thereof, with the propellant contained in such tube  
3 between the projectile and the cap; or

4 (b) Sentence.

5 Unlawful possession of firearms, other than handguns, and  
6 firearm ammunition is a Class A misdemeanor. Unlawful  
7 possession of handguns is a Class 4 felony.

8 (c) Nothing in paragraph (1) of subsection (a) of this  
9 Section prohibits a person under 18 years of age from  
10 participating in any lawful recreational activity with a  
11 firearm such as, but not limited to, practice shooting at  
12 targets upon established public or private target ranges or  
13 hunting, trapping, or fishing in accordance with the Wildlife  
14 Code or the Fish and Aquatic Life Code.

15 (Source: P.A. 91-696, eff. 4-13-00.)

16 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
17 becoming law.