

A bill for an act

relating to game and fish; requiring a report on uncased firearms.

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

Section 1. **UNCASED FIREARMS REPORT.**

The commissioner of natural resources shall submit a report to the legislature by January 1, 2009, on uncased firearms that answers the questions listed below.

(1) How many other states have laws like Minnesota's governing uncased firearms?

(2) Are there any studies that prove that uncased firearms laws like Minnesota's reduce firearm-related accidents?

(3) Is there evidence that more accidents occur loading and unloading firearms and putting firearms in and out of cases than would occur if the firearms were not required to be cased?

(4) Are there any studies to prove that having a cased gun law reduces other criminal violations? For example, there are thousands of tickets written for uncased guns every year; is this the activity the state is trying to stop or is the state trying to reduce other crimes? Is there any proof that by issuing tickets Minnesota is stopping other crimes?

(5) If the state cannot verify that it is reducing accidents or reducing other criminal violations by writing uncased gun tickets, why is the state writing them?

(6) If the state is reducing other wildlife crimes such as shooting from the roadway, how is it doing this?

The report must comply with Minnesota Statutes, sections 3.195 and 3.197, and be submitted to the chairs of the house and senate committees with jurisdiction over the environment and natural resources.