

GREEN SHEET REDIGEST

HB 131

2023 Regular Session

McCormick

WEAPONS/HANDGUNS: Provides relative to the concealed carrying of firearms.

DIGEST

Present law (R.S. 14:95) prohibits the carrying of a concealed firearm and provides for criminal penalties. Provides that present law does not apply to a resident of Louisiana if all of the following are met:

- (1) The person is 21 years of age or older.
- (2) The person is not prohibited from possession a firearm under state or federal law.
- (3) The person is a reserve or active-duty member of any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces, a member of the La. National Guard or the La. Air National Guard, or a former member of such military organizations and has been honorably discharged from service.

Proposed law removes the requirement that a person be a reserve or active-duty member of any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces, a member of the La. National Guard or the La. Air National Guard, or a former member of such organizations and has been honorably discharged from service in order to be exempt from present law.

Present law (R.S. 40:1379.3) provides that La. residents who meet certain eligibility requirements may apply for and be issued a concealed handgun permit authorizing the person to carry a concealed handgun on his person in the state of La. Further requires the person to possess a valid concealed handgun permit issued by the state of La. in order to carry a concealed handgun in the state of La.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law (R.S. 40:1379.3(B)(2)(a)) provides that a La. resident who meets the qualifications of present law (R.S. 14:95(M)) shall not be required to possess a valid concealed handgun permit issued by the state of La. pursuant to present law in order to carry a concealed handgun in the state of La. Further provides that the provisions of present law shall not affect the requirements of reciprocity.

Proposed law amends present law to provide that a person who meets the qualifications of present law (R.S. 14:95(M)) shall not be required to possess a valid concealed handgun permit issued by the state of La. pursuant to present law in order to carry a concealed handgun in the state of La.

Present law (R.S. 40:1379.3.3) provides that the DPS&C, office of state police, shall provide a two-hour online handgun education course at no cost to La. residents.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides for the length of the online course to be two hours.

Proposed law amends present law to change the length of the online course from two hours to two hours and 15 minutes.

Present law provides that the online handgun education course shall cover all of the following topics:

- (1) Handgun basics and nomenclature.

- (2) Firearm-free zones.
- (3) Use of deadly force.
- (4) Interactions with law enforcement officers.
- (5) Conflict resolution.
- (6) Accident prevention.
- (7) Unauthorized access prevention.
- (8) Safe handling of a handgun.

Proposed law retains present law, but amends the topic of "handgun basics and nomenclature" to include handling procedures for a revolver and a semiautomatic pistol.

Proposed law further combines the topic of "safe storage of firearms" with the topic of "accident prevention".

Proposed law further adds the topic of "suicide prevention, with an emphasis on the impact of firearm-related suicides involving veterans and current service members of the U.S. Armed Forces" to the course.

Present law provides that the DPS&C, office of state police, shall divide the topics provided in present law into eight video segments that shall broadcast for no less than 15 minutes per segment.

Proposed law amends present law to change the number of video segments from eight to nine, but still provides that the video segments shall broadcast for no less than 15 minutes per segment.

(Amends R.S. 40:1379.3(B)(2)(a) and 1379.3.3(B), (D)(1) and (6), and (F)(2); adds R.S. 40:1379.3(D)(9); repeals R.S. 14:95(M)(3))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice to the original bill:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Relative to the exception to the present law crime of illegal carrying of weapons:
 - (a) Expand the exception from any Louisiana resident to any person.
 - (b) Remove certain persons from the exception.
3. Increase the length of the online handgun education course offered by state police from two hours to two hours and fifteen minutes.
4. Amend present law relative to handgun education course topics.
5. Provide for new education course topics.
6. Increase the video segments relative to the course topics from 8 to 9.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Make technical changes.

2. Provide that any person who meets the qualifications of present law (R.S. 14:95(M)) shall be subject to the same restrictions as a person who carries a concealed firearm pursuant to present law (R.S. 40:1379.3(M) and (N)).

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Judiciary B to the reengrossed bill

1. Restores present law requirements for a person to carry a concealed weapon without a permit, including that a person must be at least 21 years old and is not prohibited under state and federal law from possessing a firearm.