

GREEN SHEET REDIGEST

HB 37

2022 Regular Session

McCormick

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

DIGEST

Proposed law authorizes school districts within the state to designate one or more elementary or secondary school teachers or administrators or retired school teachers or administrators as a school protection officer.

Proposed law provides that the responsibility as a school protection officer is voluntary and will be in addition to the person's normal job duties.

Proposed law provides that once designated, school protection officers shall be authorized to carry a concealed firearm in any school in the district.

Proposed law requires school protection officers to maintain personal control of the firearm while that firearm is on school property and provides that failure to do so will subject the school protection officer to discipline.

Proposed law requires that the request to be a school protection officer must include proof that the person has a valid concealed carry permit and a certificate showing completion of the minimum P.O.S.T. training required to be a peace officer.

Proposed law requires school districts to notify the superintendent of state police of every school protection officer designated and further requires state police to maintain a list of all school protection officers that shall be made available to all law enforcement agencies.

Proposed law (R.S. 40:1379.3.3) shall be known and cited as the "Louisiana Firearm Safety Awareness Act".

Proposed law 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 provides for the purpose of the online education course, and provides that the course is optional and shall not be a requirement for obtaining a concealed handgun permit under present law (R.S. 40:1379.3).

Proposed law provides that completion of the online education course shall not grant any person the right to carry a concealed handgun unless otherwise provided by law.

Proposed 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 provides that state police shall maintain an online database of all licensed handgun and firearm instructors to allow the public to search for classes.

Proposed law provides that the content, structure, accessibility, and all other related matters of the online handgun education shall be developed and promulgated by the DPS&C, office of state police, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Administrative Procedure Act.

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

(Adds R.S. 14:95(A)(5)(b)(iv), R.S. 17:416.16.1, and R.S. 40:1379.3.3)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Increase the minimum age a person must be to legally carry a weapon from 18 years of age to 21 years of age.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Add language that provides for the implementation and development of an optional online handgun education course.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Revenue and Fiscal Affairs to the reengrossed bill

1. Remove provisions that exempt certain persons from the crime of illegal carrying of weapons.
2. Remove provisions that eliminated the requirement that a person possess a permit issued by the state in order to carry a concealed handgun.
3. Authorize school districts to designate certain active and retired teachers and school administrators as school protection officers.
4. Require individuals designated as school protection officers be P.O.S.T. certified and obtain a concealed carry permit.
5. Require the superintendent of state police to maintain a record of all persons designated as school protection officers.