

HB 462 -- CONCEALABLE FIREARMS

SPONSOR: Munzlinger

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Special Committee on General Laws by a vote of 7 to 1.

This bill makes state restrictions on the transfer of concealable firearms identical to the federal restrictions. The penalty for an illegal transfer of concealable firearms is reduced from a class A misdemeanor to an infraction punishable by a fine of not more than \$100. The permit requirement for the purchase of a concealable firearm is repealed.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2008, FY 2009, and FY 2010.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill repeals obsolete requirements for purchasing a handgun. The applications for a permit to acquire a handgun aren't uniform and cause confusion, and some applications are denied for arbitrary reasons. Historically, the permit application process was used to deny handguns to individuals who were otherwise eligible to legally purchase handguns. The requirements also make it difficult for Missouri collectors and dealers to purchase antique and modern handguns while traveling in the state. Currently, 34 states have repealed this permit application process.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Munzlinger; National Rifle Association; Daniel Smith; Tim Oliver; Stuart Strickler; Don Glaikins; Robert McEowen; and Fred Heberer.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.