

HB 2523 -- FIREARMS

SPONSOR: Reed

CONCEALED CARRY

Currently, it is lawful to conceal carry a firearm except in certain situations. This bill makes it unlawful to conceal carry a firearm without a concealed carry permit, regardless of place or situation.

Currently, carrying a concealed firearm onto private property where the owner has conspicuously posted the premises as being off-limits to concealed weapons is not a criminal act but can result in the person being denied access to or removed from the premises. This bill makes carrying a concealed firearm without a permit a class B misdemeanor.

Currently, a person can have their conceal carry permit or lifetime concealed carry permit revoked if a petition for revocation is filed claiming that the permit holder does not meet certain qualifications. This bill modifies those qualifications in the following way:

(1) Currently, a petition for revocation can be filed if the concealed carry permit is held by someone under 19 years of age. The bill raises the age to 21 years of age; and

(2) Currently, a petition for revocation can be filed if the concealed carry permit holder has plead guilty to or been convicted of a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding two years, other than a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment of one year or less that does not involve a firearm. This bill reduces the guilty plea or conviction imprisonment term to one year, and increases the misdemeanor imprisonment to two years.

AGE RESTRICTION FOR FIREARM POSSESSION

The bill makes it unlawful for a person to possess a firearm under the age of 21, unless:

(1) The person is in lawful possession of both a valid concealed carry permit and proof of the person's current or former service in the U.S. Armed Forces;

(2) The person is a peace officer or member of the U.S. Armed Forces or National Guard while performing his or her official duty; or

(3) The person is engaged in hunting, firearms training, or recreational sporting events, as long as the person is supervised by someone who is 21 years of age or older and lawfully in possession of a valid concealed carry permit.

Currently, a person must be at least 19 years of age to possess a concealed carry permit or lifetime concealed carry permit. The bill increases the age to 21 years of age.

Currently, the restrictions to conceal carry of a firearm do not apply to any person 19 years of age or older who is transporting a concealable firearm in the passenger compartment of a motor vehicle. The bill increases the age to 21 years of age.

Currently, a person in possession of a valid concealed carry permit, including a lifetime concealed carry permit, is authorized to conceal carry a firearm on his or her person or vehicle throughout the State. This bill requires that if the person is under 21 years of age, he or she must also carry proof of current or former service in the U.S. Armed Forces on his or her person. If the person fails to produce such proof, the concealed carry permit will be void and invalid.

#### MILITARY-STYLE SEMI-AUTOMATIC FIREARMS

This bill adds a new definition for the term "military-style semi-automatic firearm".

This bill makes the act of knowingly selling, giving away, or delivering a military-style semi-automatic firearm, except when the weapon is sold or delivered to any peace officer or member of the U.S. Armed Forces or National Guard while performing his or her official duties, a Class A misdemeanor.

This bill allows the Department of Public Safety to promulgate rules in determining whether a military-style semi-automatic firearm is designated primarily for hunting or sporting purposes.

This bill is similar to HB 690 (2025).