



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2266		DATE: 4/1/2026	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ANGELA VIVIANO		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/1/2026 5:41 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. AC "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF		PHONE NUMBER: 314-440-9000	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: STATE PUBLIC ADVOCACY		TITLE: STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE	
ADDRESS: POST OFFICE BOX #1535			
CITY: O'FALLON		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63366
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/1/2026 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: BEV EHLEN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/1/2026 7:36 PM	
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: GREG GOODWIN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI ATTORNEY GENERAL's OFFICE		TITLE: CHIEF COUNSEL, PUBLIC PROTECTIONS	
ADDRESS: 207 W. HIGH STREET			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/1/2026 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SARAH BERRY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/1/2026 8:08 AM	

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HB 2266 modifies provisions relating to unlawful use of weapons, including expansions of authorized carry and categorical exemptions, raising significant constitutional concerns regarding equal protection, due process, and the consistency of public safety enforcement frameworks.

While presented as a clarification and expansion of existing law, the bill creates a tiered system of enforcement and exemption, in which broad categories of individuals—particularly government officials and affiliated personnel—are granted expanded authority to carry weapons in otherwise restricted areas. This raises immediate concerns regarding equal protection, as similarly situated individuals are treated differently based on status, employment, or affiliation rather than objective conduct.

The expansion of exemptions for certain classes of individuals, including government actors and designated personnel, creates a structure in which access to rights and restrictions under criminal law is unevenly applied, potentially undermining the principle that laws of general applicability should be enforced uniformly.

HB 2266 also raises due process concerns through the breadth and complexity of its provisions. The statute incorporates numerous exceptions, cross-references, and conditional applications that may create ambiguity for individuals attempting to determine lawful conduct. Where criminal liability is implicated, statutory clarity is essential. A framework that is overly complex or difficult to interpret increases the risk of arbitrary or inconsistent enforcement.

Additionally, the bill’s expansion of authorized firearm possession in traditionally sensitive locations—including schools, government buildings, and other public spaces—raises concerns regarding the state’s obligation to maintain consistent and rational public safety standards. When restrictions are broadly lifted for certain categories of individuals without a clear, narrowly tailored justification, it raises questions regarding the rational basis and uniform application of those standards.

The cumulative structure—expanding exemptions, layering classifications, and increasing statutory complexity—creates a framework that may be subject to challenge where legal privileges are distributed based on status rather than conduct, and where enforcement becomes dependent on classification rather than clear, universally applied rules.

Bottom line:

HB 2266 establishes a classification-based framework for weapon restrictions and exemptions that risks inconsistent application of the law, reduced clarity in enforcement, and unequal treatment under criminal statutes.

The General Assembly is hereby placed on notice that enactment of this provision may give rise to constitutional challenges, including but not limited to equal protection and due process concerns, particularly where statutory exemptions create disparate treatment and undermine uniform enforcement.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SHERRY L BUCHANAN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/1/2026 11:27 AM	
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More guns in the Capitol will not make me feel safer. I trust law enforcement level of training for anyone carrying a gun; otherwise, no.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN GIBSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/31/2026 9:19 PM
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I guess the snowflakes live in fear and want their security blanket.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CHELSIE CREPS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/1/2026 8:59 AM
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I am wholly aware that AG's office members are in need of protection. And unlikely other higher members of political office do not get protection that they may need in areas they do their work. Or protection for just doing the job of the Missouri government. I am not blind to this fact. I, however, take great issue with furthering protection for government officials when everyday women and men are restricted of their rights to carry to also protect themselves. I thought Missouri stood for 2A rights for all and instead of fighting for rights of everyone the legislative body is choosing to advance and hear rights for only government officials. **WHAT ARE WE DOING?** I don't want to oppose this bill because I want them to be able to protect themselves. That is their right. But and a huge but here - why are we continuing to let all and especially women in Missouri go without those rights. I urge the Missouri House of Representatives to consider all Missourians when discussing this bill.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DEE ANN DUCOTE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/1/2026 8:41 AM	
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The MO House General Laws Committee, @benKeath, chairman, will hear HB2266, a bill to add "the attorney general and any member of his or her staff" to the list of those exempted from concealed carry restrictions in our state mandated gun-free zones (GFZ's). This is a start, but the unresolved issue of GFZ's still leaves me vulnerable!

Just last week, @AGCHanaway stated, "Our office will always fight for 2A rights." So, on behalf of the members of @Women4GunRights-MO, I humbly ask AG Hanaway, to help us push to remove the many dangerous, and I would submit, unconstitutional, GFZ's from Missouri's statute.

All female concealed carriers of Missouri deserve the right to carry for protection everywhere we go... even if we don't happen to work for the government.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DONNIE OWSLEY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/1/2026 9:03 AM

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I am writing in a neutral capacity to flag a narrow drafting issue in the proposed reenactment of §571.030. As written, subsection 5 creates an exception only for conduct justified under §563.031, even though Missouri's lawful-use-of-force statutes extend beyond that single section. By limiting the exception to §563.031, the bill makes unlawful certain conduct that the Second Amendment, Article I, Section 23 of the Missouri Constitution, Chapter 563, and §1.010 all recognize as lawful. This narrow cross-reference may also create strict-scrutiny and equal-protection concerns.

To avoid these issues, I suggest revising subsection 5 to reference "a lawful use of force under Chapter 563" rather than §563.031 alone.

Thank you for considering this technical correction.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: STACY BRIGHT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/1/2026 1:03 PM	
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RE: HB2266 - Unlawful Use of Weapons

As a full-time employee, I am unable to travel back and forth to Jefferson City to testify and support measures that I am in support of. I typically stay out of the political arena, also.

In this instance, however, it seems that a bill that extends carry rights to only a narrow group of government employees, rather than addressing the needs of all women who lawfully carry in Missouri, is being blatantly overlooked.

That being said, I don't oppose the intent of allowing women working in the Attorney General's office to better protect themselves. That is a positive step. However, it is difficult to ignore the broader issue—that many other women across the state continue to face the same vulnerabilities without similar consideration.

With that in mind, I offer the following for consideration:

A more balanced approach would be to eliminate state-mandated gun-free zones in locations that lack meaningful security measures. This would expand protection for everyone, not just a select few. Courthouses and similar environments could still be treated as exceptions where appropriate. Expanding carry rights more broadly would be a far more equitable solution than creating limited exemptions.

Additionally, many women are prohibited from carrying at their workplaces. In some cases, they cannot even leave a firearm secured in their vehicle without risking disciplinary action or termination. This forces them to remain unarmed throughout the day, even when commuting long distances or traveling in low-light conditions. Others are left to park off-site, increasing their exposure and risk.

ALL women in Missouri who choose to carry for self-defense deserve the ability to do so consistently, not only those employed by government offices.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN MYERS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/1/2026 11:50 AM

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HB 2266 - Unlawful Use of Weapons

I couldn't justify spending the 40 bucks on gas to come advocate for carry rights for only a select group of government employees rather than all of Missouri's female concealed carriers. Given the dogged effort I put into advocating for the carry rights of ALL women, it is difficult to throw my support behind HB 2266 without being left feeling as though I've betrayed the women I volunteer to represent before this committee. Nor do I wish to oppose a bill that will allow the women from the AG's office to be able to better protect themselves. In fact, I will be glad of it. Though I do feel the Missouri General Assembly continues to act indifferently to the plight of the rest of the state's female concealed carriers.

So, for your information and consideration...

A just solution would be to remove all state mandated gun-free zones in locations that do not provide comprehensive security for the protection of all who come and go. Yes, this would still leave the AG and her staff with a gun-free zone workplace (courthouses) in need of exemption. Doing so would be far less of a bitter pill for the rest of us to swallow when our own ability to carry in more places is expanded in the process. But, perhaps, silly me, for thinking the rest of us were even part of the consideration in the first place.

Speaking of gun-free zone workplaces...

Same as the AG, a number of the members of Women for Gun Rights-MO are themselves not allowed to carry at work. Many aren't even able to leave their firearm concealed and locked up in their employer's parking lot without risk of termination. This leaves them either unarmed their entire day despite living miles away and traveling to and from in the dark; or forced to park off premises, again opening them up to more risk and vulnerability with further to walk without protection.

All female concealed carriers of Missouri deserve the right to carry for protection everywhere we go - even if we don't happen to work for the government.