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INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2019-049

1  
2 State of Arkansas  
3 92nd General Assembly  
4 Regular Session, 2019

*As Engrossed: S4/3/19*

**A Bill**

SENATE BILL 660

5  
6 By: Senator T. Garner

7 Filed with: Senate Committee on City, County, and Local Affairs  
8 pursuant to A.C.A. §10-3-217.

9 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

10 AN ACT TO MODERNIZE THE CONCEALED HANDGUN LICENSING  
11 FRAMEWORK; CONCERNING THE POSSESSION OF A HANDGUN;  
12 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

13  
14  
15 **Subtitle**

16 TO MODERNIZE THE CONCEALED HANDGUN  
17 LICENSING FRAMEWORK; AND CONCERNING THE  
18 POSSESSION OF A HANDGUN.

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20  
21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

22  
23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 5-73-101, concerning definitions used  
24 concerning weapons, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as  
25 follows:

26 (12) "Publicly owned building or facility" means a structure or  
27 enclosed area that is owned, operated, or administered by the United States  
28 Government, state government, or a county, local, regional, or municipal  
29 government for public use.

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31 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 5-73-119(c)(1), concerning the possession  
32 of a handgun upon the property of any private institution of higher education  
33 or a publicly supported institution of higher education, is amended to read  
34 as follows:

35 (c)(1)(A) Except as provided in § 5-73-322, a person in this state  
36 shall not possess a handgun upon the property of any private institution of

1 higher education or a publicly supported institution of higher education in  
 2 this state on or about his or her person, in a vehicle occupied by him or  
 3 her, or otherwise readily available for use with a purpose to employ the  
 4 handgun as a weapon against a person.

5 (B) However, a person with a license to carry a concealed  
 6 handgun with a concealed carry endorsement under § 5-73-322 may possess and  
 7 store a handgun in his or her room inside of a university or college-operated  
 8 student dormitory or residence hall under § 5-73-322(d).

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 10 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 5-73-122(a)(3), concerning the exceptions  
 11 to the prohibition against possessing a firearm in a publicly owned building  
 12 or facility, is amended to add a new subdivision to read as follows:

13 (F) If the person is a member of a board or commission  
 14 established under state law and the person possesses the handgun in or at a  
 15 publicly owned building or facility where a meeting of the board or  
 16 commission is being held.

17  
 18 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 5-73-306(5), concerning the places where a  
 19 person with a license to carry a concealed handgun is prohibited from  
 20 carrying a concealed handgun, is amended to add an additional subdivision to  
 21 read as follows:

22 (5)(A) Any courthouse, courthouse annex, or other building  
 23 owned, leased, or regularly used by a county for conducting court proceedings  
 24 or housing a county office unless:

25 ~~(A)~~(i) The licensee is:

26 ~~(i)~~(a) Employed by the county;

27 ~~(ii)~~(b) A countywide elected official;

28 ~~(iii)~~(c) A justice of the peace; or

29 ~~(iv)~~(a)(d)(1) Employed by a governmental  
 30 entity, other than the county, with an office or place of employment inside  
 31 the courthouse, the courthouse annex, or other building owned, leased, or  
 32 regularly used by the county for conducting court proceedings or housing a  
 33 county office.

34 ~~(b)~~(2) A licensee is limited to carrying  
 35 a concealed handgun under subdivision ~~(5)~~(A)~~(iv)~~(a)(5)(A)(i)(d)(1) of this  
 36 section into the courthouse, courthouse annex, or other building owned,

1 leased, or regularly used by the county for conducting court proceedings or  
2 housing a county office where the office or place of employment of the  
3 governmental entity that employs him or her is located;

4 ~~(B)~~(ii) The licensee's principal place of employment  
5 is within the courthouse, the courthouse annex, or other building owned,  
6 leased, or regularly used by the county for conducting court proceedings or  
7 housing a county office; and

8 ~~(G)~~(iii) The quorum court by ordinance approves a  
9 plan that allows licensees permitted under this subdivision (5) to carry a  
10 concealed handgun into the courthouse, courthouse annex, or other building  
11 owned, leased, or regularly used by a county for conducting court proceedings  
12 or housing a county office, as set out by the local security and emergency  
13 preparedness plan~~+~~.

14 (B) The prohibition against carrying a concealed handgun  
15 into a building housing a county office under this subdivision (5) does not  
16 apply to a licensee who has obtained a concealed carry endorsement under § 5-  
17 73-322(g) if the building housing the county office does not also contain a  
18 courthouse or courtroom and an administrative hearing is not underway in the  
19 building;

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21 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 5-73-322(d), concerning the storage of a  
22 handgun in a university or college-operated student dormitory or residence  
23 hall, is amended to read as follows:

24 (d) The storage of a handgun in a university or college-operated  
25 student dormitory or residence hall is ~~prohibited under § 5-73-119(c)~~  
26 permitted if the handgun:

27 ((1) Is lawfully possessed;

28 (2) Is stored out of sight inside a locked room in the student  
29 dormitory or residence hall; and

30 (3)(A) Is stored inside a locked personal handgun storage  
31 container that is designed for the safe storage of a handgun.

32 (B) A person is not required to store the handgun in the  
33 personal handgun storage container until he or she is leaving his or her room  
34 in the student dormitory or residence hall.

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1 SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 5-73-322(g)(2)(A), concerning the training  
2 for a license to carry a concealed handgun with a concealed carry  
3 endorsement, is amended to read as follows:

4 (2)(A) Training required under this subsection shall:

5 (i) ~~Not be required to be renewed~~ Does not require  
6 renewal;

7 (ii) ~~Consist~~ Shall consist of a course of up to  
8 eight (8) hours;

9 (iii) ~~Be~~ May be offered by all training instructors  
10 and at all concealed carry training courses; and

11 (iv) ~~Cost~~ Shall cost no more than a nominal amount.  
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13 SECTION 7. Arkansas Code Title 5, Chapter 73, Subchapter 3, is amended  
14 to add an additional section to read as follows:

15 5-73-327. Government not a private entity.

16 The United States Government, the state government, or a county, local,  
17 regional, or municipal government is not considered:

18 (1) An entity exercising control over a physical location under  
19 § 5-73-306(18); or

20 (2) A private entity under § 5-73-306(19).  
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22  
23 /s/T. Garner  
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26 Referred requested by the Arkansas Senate

27 Prepared by: BPG/VJF  
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