

House Bill 735

By: Representatives Bruce of the 64th, Mosby of the 90th, Benfield of the 85th, and Frazier of the 123rd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 16-11-129 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 license to carry a weapon and temporary renewal permit, so as to provide for training as a
3 prerequisite for a weapons carry license; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

5 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

6 Code Section 16-11-129 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to license to
7 carry a pistol or revolver and temporary renewal permit, is amended by revising subsection
8 (a) as follows:

9 **"(a)(1) Application for weapons carry license or renewal license; term.** The judge
10 of the probate court of each county may, on application under oath and on payment of a
11 fee of \$30.00, issue a weapons carry license or renewal license valid for a period of five
12 years to any person whose domicile is in that county or who is on active duty with the
13 United States armed forces and who is not a domiciliary of this state but who either
14 resides in that county or on a military reservation located in whole or in part in that
15 county at the time of such application. Such license or renewal license shall authorize
16 that person to carry any weapon in any county of this state notwithstanding any change
17 in that person's county of residence or state of domicile. Applicants shall submit the
18 application for a weapons carry license or renewal license to the judge of the probate
19 court on forms prescribed and furnished free of charge to persons wishing to apply for
20 the license or renewal license. An applicant who is not a United States citizen shall
21 provide sufficient personal identifying data, including without limitation his or her place
22 of birth and United States issued alien or admission number, as the Georgia Bureau of
23 Investigation may prescribe by rule or regulation. An applicant who is in nonimmigrant
24 status shall provide proof of his or her qualifications for an exception to the federal
25 firearm prohibition pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 922(y). Forms shall be designed to
26 elicit information from the applicant pertinent to his or her eligibility under this Code

27 section, including citizenship, but shall not require data which is nonpertinent or
 28 irrelevant such as serial numbers or other identification capable of being used as a de
 29 facto registration of firearms owned by the applicant. The Department of Public Safety
 30 shall furnish application forms and license forms required by this Code section. The
 31 forms shall be furnished to each judge of each probate court within the state at no cost.

32 (2) Any applicant seeking a weapons carry license on or after July 1, 2012, shall
 33 demonstrate completion of a firearms safety training course within one year of the date
 34 of the application for a license under this Code section. An applicant may satisfy such
 35 training requirement by submitting proof that he or she:

36 (A) Is a peace officer, as such term is defined in Code Section 16-1-3;

37 (B) Is serving on active duty with the United States armed forces;

38 (C) Is serving in the active reserve component of the United States armed forces or
 39 Georgia National Guard;

40 (D) Is a weapons training instructor licensed by the Georgia Board of Private Detective
 41 and Security Agencies; or

42 (E) Has completed a four-hour firearms safety training course from either a weapons
 43 training instructor licensed by the Georgia Board of Private Detective and Security
 44 Agencies or a peace officer who is currently certified under Chapter 8 of Title 35, the
 45 'Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Act.' Such course shall include
 46 instruction on the features of a firearm and a brief explanation of loading, firing, and
 47 unloading the firearm. Proof of completion of such course shall be a notarized affidavit
 48 signed by the person providing the instruction with his or her address, position, and
 49 training instructor license number or badge number.

50 (3) Any license holder who possesses a weapons carry license on June 30, 2012, shall
 51 be exempt from the training requirement set forth in paragraph (2) of this subsection until
 52 such time as he or she applies to renew such license."

53 **SECTION 2.**

54 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.