

Senate Bill 493

By: Senators Loudermilk of the 52nd, Rogers of the 21st, Mullis of the 53rd and Hill of the 32nd

**AS PASSED SENATE**

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED**

**AN ACT**

1 To amend Part 3 of Article 4 of Chapter 11 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia  
2 Annotated, relating to carrying and possession of firearms, so as to authorize persons who  
3 are between the ages of 18 and 21 to carry firearms under certain circumstances; to provide  
4 for a designation on a firearms license that the licensee has received firearms training; to  
5 provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Part 3 of Article 4 of Chapter 11 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
9 relating to carrying and possession of firearms, is amended by revising  
10 subparagraph (b)(2)(A) of Code Section 16-11-129, relating to license to carry weapon,  
11 temporary renewal permit, and mandamus, and adding a new paragraph to subsection (f) to  
12 read as follows:

13 "(A) Any Except as otherwise provided under Code Section 16-11-136, any person  
14 under 21 years of age;".

15 "(3) The weapons carry license of a licensee who provides proof to the judge of the  
16 probate court of successfully passing a course of firearms instruction which is  
17 equivalent to or surpasses the minimum training specified in subsection (c) of Code  
18 Section 16-11-136 shall reflect that such licensee has received such training."

19 **SECTION 2.**

20 Said part is further amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

21 "16-11-136.

22 (a) A resident of this state who is between the ages of 18 and 21 may be issued a license  
23 to carry a weapon under Code Section 16-11-129 if such person meets all of the other  
24 requirements for such license except for age and provides proof of compliance with the  
25 provisions of this Code section by providing certification in writing from a licensed  
26 firearms instructor.

27 (b) A resident of this state who is between the ages of 18 and 21 shall complete and pass  
28 satisfactorily a course of firearms instruction taught by a licensed firearms instructor within  
29 three months of applying for a license under Code Section 16-11-129.

30 (c) The course of firearms instruction shall contain, at a minimum, the following:

31 (1) Four hours of classroom instruction on the following topics:

32 (A) The laws of the United States and Georgia regarding the possession, carrying,  
33 storing, and use of firearms, including laws regarding self-defense and the use of deadly  
34 force;

35 (B) The proper methods of handling, carrying, and storing firearms safely; and

36 (C) Fundamentals of how to operate, load, fire, and unload firearms safely;

37 (2) Four hours of instruction on a firearms range in the actual operation, loading, and  
38 firing of a firearm at targets, firing not less than 400 rounds of ammunition at targets at  
39 various distances; and

40 (3) An examination on the classroom instruction and a practical examination on the  
41 firearms range showing proficiency in the use of a firearm and the safe use and operation  
42 of such firearm."

43 **SECTION 3.**

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