

The House Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security offers the following substitute to HB 779:

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 licenses to carry weapons, temporary renewal permits, and mandamus, so as to allow certain
3 military personnel and military veterans to be issued a weapons carry license without the
4 payment of all or part of certain fees; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective
5 date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Code Section 16-11-129 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to licenses to
9 carry weapons, temporary renewal permits, and mandamus, is amended by revising
10 subsection (h) as follows:

11 **"(h)(1) Licenses for former law enforcement officers.** Except as otherwise provided
12 in Code Section 16-11-130, any person who has served as a law enforcement officer for
13 at least ten of the 12 years immediately preceding the retirement of such person as a law
14 enforcement officer shall be entitled to be issued a weapons carry license as provided for
15 in this Code section without the payment of any of the fees provided for in this Code
16 section. Such person shall comply with all the other provisions of this Code section
17 relative to the issuance of such licenses. As used in this subsection, the term 'law
18 enforcement officer' means any peace officer who is employed by the United States
19 government or by the State of Georgia or any political subdivision thereof and who is
20 required by the terms of his or her employment, whether by election or appointment, to
21 give his or her full time to the preservation of public order or the protection of life and
22 property or the prevention of crime. Such term shall include conservation rangers.

23 **(2) Licenses for persons serving with the United States armed forces or the Georgia**
24 **National Guard.** Following consultation with the judge of the probate court of the
25 **county, the governing authority of a county may by resolution or ordinance waive for any**
26 **person who has served with the United States armed forces all or any part of the fees**

27 otherwise payable pursuant to subsection (a) or (b) of this Code section. Such person
28 shall comply with all the other provisions of this Code section relative to the issuance of
29 such license. For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'served with the Unites States
30 armed forces' means any person who:

31 (A) Actively served with the United States armed forces or the Georgia National Guard
32 and was discharged or released therefrom under conditions other than dishonorable; or
33 (B) Is currently serving in good standing with the United States armed forces or the
34 Georgia National Guard and has so served for at least three years."

35 **SECTION 2.**

36 This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2014.

37 **SECTION 3.**

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