

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 require the completion
3 of firearms safety training by certain persons for the issuance of a weapons carry license; to
4 provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 SECTION 1.

7 Part 3 of Article 4 of Chapter 11 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
8 relating to carrying and possession of firearms, is amended by revising subsection (a) of
9 Code Section 16-11-129, relating to weapons carry license, temporary renewal permit,
10 mandamus, and verification of license, as follows:

11 "(a)(1) Application for weapons carry license or renewal license; term. Upon
12 compliance with paragraph (2) of this subsection, the ~~The~~ judge of the probate court of
13 each county shall, on application under oath, on payment of a fee of \$30.00, and on
14 investigation of applicant pursuant to subsections (b) and (d) of this Code section, issue
15 a weapons carry license or renewal license valid for a period of five years to any person
16 whose domicile is in that county or who is on active duty with the United States armed
17 forces and who is not a domiciliary of this state but who either resides in that county or
18 on a military reservation located in whole or in part in that county at the time of such
19 application. Such license or renewal license shall authorize that person to carry any
20 weapon in any county of this state notwithstanding any change in that person's county of
21 residence or state of domicile. Applicants shall submit the application for a weapons
22 carry license or renewal license to the judge of the probate court on forms prescribed and
23 furnished free of charge to persons wishing to apply for the license or renewal license.
24 An application shall be considered to be for a renewal license if the applicant has a
25 weapons carry license or renewal license with 90 or fewer days remaining before the
26 expiration of such weapons carry license or renewal license or 30 or fewer days since the

27 expiration of such weapons carry license or renewal license regardless of the county of
 28 issuance of the applicant's expired or expiring weapons carry license or renewal license.
 29 An applicant who is not a United States citizen shall provide sufficient personal
 30 identifying data, including without limitation his or her place of birth and United States
 31 issued alien or admission number, as the Georgia Bureau of Investigation may prescribe
 32 by rule or regulation. An applicant who is in nonimmigrant status shall provide proof of
 33 his or her qualifications for an exception to the federal firearm prohibition pursuant to 18
 34 U.S.C. Section 922(y). Forms shall be designed to elicit information from the applicant
 35 pertinent to his or her eligibility under this Code section, including citizenship, but shall
 36 not require data which is nonpertinent or irrelevant, such as serial numbers or other
 37 identification capable of being used as a de facto registration of firearms owned by the
 38 applicant. The Department of Public Safety shall furnish application forms and license
 39 forms required by this Code section. The forms shall be furnished to each judge of each
 40 probate court within this state at no cost.

41 (2) An applicant shall demonstrate completion of firearms safety training within three
 42 years prior to the date of the application for a weapons carry license as provided for under
 43 paragraph (1) of this subsection. An applicant may satisfy such training requirement by
 44 submitting proof that he or she:

45 (A) Is a peace officer, as such term is defined in Code Section 35-8-2;

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

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

49 (D) Is a firearms safety instructor certified by the National Rifle Association holding
 50 a rating as a personal protection instructor or pistol marksmanship instructor; or

51 (E) Has received basic firearms training provided by a law enforcement officer, a
 52 nationally recognized organization that promotes firearm safety, or a licensed firearms
 53 dealer. Such training shall include instruction on the features of a handgun and a brief
 54 explanation of loading, firing, and unloading of the weapon; provided, however, that
 55 live firing shall not be required. Proof of such training shall be a notarized affidavit
 56 signed by the person providing the training with his or her address, position, and
 57 identifying number, such as a badge number or firearms dealer license number, or a
 58 certificate of training issued by a nationally recognized organization that promotes
 59 firearm safety. Such nationally recognized organizations that promote firearm safety
 60 shall be as provided for by rule of the Council of Probate Court Judges of Georgia.

61 This paragraph shall not be applicable to renewal licenses."

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SECTION 2.

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This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2018.

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SECTION 3.

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