

House Bill 195

By: Representatives Marin of the 96th, Au of the 50th, Schofield of the 63rd, Tran of the 80th, Park of the 107th, and others

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 weapons carry license, gun safety information, temporary renewal permit, mandamus, and
3 verification of license, so as to provide for a firearms safety training course for certain
4 persons making application for a weapons carry license or renewal license; to provide for
5 related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
6 purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

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

9 Code Section 16-11-129 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to weapons
10 carry license, gun safety information, temporary renewal permit, mandamus, and verification
11 of license, is amended by revising subsection (a) as follows:

12 **"(a) Application for weapons carry license or renewal license; term.**

13 (1) The judge of the probate court of each county shall, on application under oath, on
14 payment of a fee of \$30.00, on demonstration of completion of a firearms safety training
15 course as provided for under paragraph (3) of this subsection, and on investigation of the
16 applicant pursuant to subsections (b) and (d) of this Code section, issue a weapons carry

17 license or renewal license valid for a period of five years to any person whose domicile
18 is in that county or who is on active duty with the United States armed forces and who
19 is not a domiciliary of this state but who either resides in that county or on a military
20 reservation located in whole or in part in that county at the time of such application. Such
21 license or renewal license shall authorize that person to carry any weapon in any county
22 of this state notwithstanding any change in that person's county of residence or state of
23 domicile.

24 (2)(A) As used in this paragraph, the term 'service member' means an active duty
25 member of the regular or reserve component of the United States Army, United States
26 Navy, United States Marine Corps, United States Coast Guard, United States Air Force,
27 United States National Guard, Georgia Army National Guard, or Georgia Air National
28 Guard.

29 (B) Applicants shall submit the application for a weapons carry license or renewal
30 license to the judge of the probate court on forms prescribed and furnished free of
31 charge to persons wishing to apply for the license or renewal license.

32 (C)(i) An application shall be considered to be for a renewal license if the applicant
33 has a weapons carry license or renewal license with 90 or fewer days remaining
34 before the expiration of such weapons carry license or renewal license or 30 or fewer
35 days since the expiration of such weapons carry license or renewal license regardless
36 of the county of issuance of the applicant's expired or expiring weapons carry license
37 or renewal license.

38 (ii) An application of any service member whose weapons carry license or renewal
39 license expired while such service member was serving on active duty outside this
40 state shall be considered to be for a renewal license if such service member applies
41 within six months from the date of his or her discharge from active duty or
42 reassignment to a location within this state as provided for in a copy of such service

43 member's official military orders or a written verification signed by such service
44 member's commanding officer as provided by the service member.

45 (iii) An applicant who is not a United States citizen shall provide sufficient personal
46 identifying data, including without limitation his or her place of birth and United
47 States issued alien or admission number, as the Georgia Bureau of Investigation may
48 prescribe by rule or regulation. An applicant who is in nonimmigrant status shall
49 provide proof of his or her qualifications for an exception to the federal firearm
50 prohibition pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 922(y). Forms shall be designed to elicit
51 information from the applicant pertinent to his or her eligibility under this Code
52 section, including citizenship, but shall not require data which is nonpertinent or
53 irrelevant, such as serial numbers or other identification capable of being used as a de
54 facto registration of firearms owned by the applicant. The Department of Public
55 Safety shall furnish application forms and license forms required by this Code section.
56 The forms shall be furnished to each judge of each probate court within this state at
57 no cost.

58 (3) An applicant shall demonstrate completion of a firearms safety training course within
59 three years prior to the date of the application for a license under this Code section. An
60 applicant may satisfy such training requirement by:

61 (A) Submitting proof that he or she is a peace officer, as such term is defined in Code
62 Section 35-8-2;

63 (B) Submitting proof that he or she is serving on active duty with the United States
64 armed forces;

65 (C) Submitting proof that he or she is serving in the reserve component of the United
66 States armed forces or Georgia National Guard;

67 (D) Submitting proof that he or she is a firearms safety instructor certified by the
68 National Rifle Association holding a rating as a personal protection instructor or pistol
69 marksmanship instructor; or

70 (E) Submitting proof of having received basic firearms instruction provided by a law
71 enforcement officer, a nationally recognized organization that promotes gun safety, or
72 a licensed firearms dealer. Such training shall include instruction on the features of a
73 handgun and a brief explanation of the loading, firing, and unloading of the weapon;
74 provided, however, that live firing shall not be required. Proof of such training shall
75 be a notarized affidavit signed by the person providing the instruction with his or her
76 address and position and an identifying number, such as a badge number, a firearms
77 dealer license number, or a certificate of training issued by a national organization that
78 promotes gun safety."

79 **SECTION 2.**

80 This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2024.

81 **SECTION 3.**

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