

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2025

FILED SENATE  
Apr 21, 2026  
S.B. 815  
PRINCIPAL CLERK

S

D

SENATE BILL DRS45440-MLy-163A

Short Title: Const. Amend./Permitless Carry. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Moffitt, Lazzara, and Britt (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO EQUALIZE OPEN CARRY AND CONCEALED CARRY OF DEFENSIVE  
3 WEAPONS BY REMOVING THE PROHIBITION OF CONCEALED CARRY AND TO  
4 UPHOLD THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS FOR SELF-DEFENSE.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 SECTION 1. Section 30 of Article I of the North Carolina Constitution reads as  
7 rewritten:

8 "Sec. 30. Militia and the right to bear arms.

9 A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people  
10 to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed; and, as standing armies in time of peace are  
11 dangerous to liberty, they shall not be maintained, and the military shall be kept under strict  
12 subordination to, and governed by, the civil power. ~~Nothing herein shall justify the practice of~~  
13 ~~carrying concealed weapons, or prevent the General Assembly from enacting penal statutes~~  
14 ~~against that practice.~~ Any citizen of the United States who (i) has not been indicted or convicted  
15 of a violent crime or felony possession or distribution of a controlled substance and (ii) has not  
16 been adjudicated mentally incompetent has the right to carry any legal weapon for self-defense,  
17 either openly or concealed, with or without a permit, except on public or private property that is  
18 legally posted against it. A system of concealed carry permits shall be maintained for purposes  
19 of reciprocity with other states and ease of purchasing weapons, but no law-abiding citizen shall  
20 be required to obtain such a permit to carry a concealed weapon."

21 SECTION 2. The amendment set out in Section 1 of this act shall be submitted to  
22 the qualified voters of the State at the general election to be held on November 3, 2026, which  
23 election shall be conducted under the laws then governing elections in the State. Ballots, voting  
24 systems, or both may be used in accordance with Chapter 163 of the General Statutes. The  
25 question to be used in the voting systems and ballots shall be:

26 "[ ] FOR [ ] AGAINST

27 Constitutional amendment to make it a right for any citizen who has not been indicted  
28 or convicted of a violent crime to carry any legal weapon for self-defense, either openly or  
29 concealed, with or without a permit, except on public or private property that is legally posted  
30 against it."

31 SECTION 3. The State Board of Elections shall certify the results of the referendum  
32 conducted under Section 2 of this act. If a majority of votes cast on the question are in favor of  
33 the amendment set out in Section 1 of this act, the Secretary of State shall enroll the amendment  
34 among the permanent records of that office. If a majority of votes cast on the question are against  
35 the amendment set out in Section 1 of this act, the amendment shall have no effect.



\* D R S 4 5 4 4 0 - M L Y - 1 6 3 A \*

1           **SECTION 4.** If the certification from the State Board of Elections under Section 3  
2 of this act reflects that a majority of votes cast on the question are in favor of the amendment set  
3 out in Section 1 of this act, the amendment set out in Section 1 of this act is effective upon  
4 certification.

5           **SECTION 5.** Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes  
6 law.