

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

SENATE BILL 721

By: Alvord

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to firearm training; amending 21 O.S. 2021, Sections 1290.14 and 1290.15, which relate to safety and training course and persons exempt from training course; clarifying language; directing certain approval; removing certain time inclusion; removing certain exemption requirement; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 21 O.S. 2021, Section 1290.14, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1290.14.

SAFETY AND TRAINING COURSE

A. Each applicant for a license to carry a concealed or unconcealed handgun pursuant to the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act must successfully complete a firearms safety and training course in this state conducted by a registered and approved firearms instructor as provided by the provisions of this section or from an interactive online firearms safety and training course available electronically via the Internet approved and certified by the Council on Law

1 Enforcement Education and Training. The applicant must further
2 demonstrate competence and qualification with an authorized pistol
3 ~~of the type or types that the applicant desires~~ to carry as a
4 concealed or unconcealed handgun pursuant to the provisions of the
5 Oklahoma Self-Defense Act, except certain persons may be exempt from
6 such training requirement as provided by the provisions of Section
7 1290.15 of this title.

8 B. The Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training
9 (CLEET) shall establish criteria for approving firearms instructors
10 and interactive online firearms safety and training courses
11 available electronically via the Internet for purposes of training
12 and qualifying individuals for a handgun license pursuant to the
13 provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act. Prior to submitting an
14 application for CLEET approval as a firearms instructor, applicants
15 shall attend a firearms instructor school, meeting the following
16 minimum requirements:

17 1. Firearms instructor training conducted by one of the
18 following entities:

- 19 a. Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training,
- 20 b. National Rifle Association,
- 21 c. Oklahoma Rifle Association,
- 22 d. federal law enforcement agencies, or
- 23 e. other professionally recognized organizations;

24 2. The course shall be at least sixteen (16) hours in length;

1 3. Upon completion of the course, the applicant shall be
2 qualified to provide instruction on ~~revolvers, semiautomatic~~
3 ~~pistols, or both~~; and

4 4. Receive a course completion certificate.

5 All firearms instructors shall be required to meet the
6 eligibility requirements for a handgun license as provided in
7 Sections 1290.9, 1290.10, and 1290.11 of this title and the
8 application shall be processed as provided for applicants in Section
9 1290.12 of this title, including the state and national criminal
10 history records search and fingerprint search. A firearms
11 instructor shall be required to pay a fee of One Hundred Dollars
12 (\$100.00) to the Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training
13 (CLEET) each time the person makes application for CLEET approval as
14 a firearms instructor pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma
15 Self-Defense Act. The fee shall be retained by CLEET and shall be
16 deposited into the Firearms Instructors Revolving Fund. CLEET shall
17 promulgate the rules, forms and procedures necessary to implement
18 the approval of firearms instructors as authorized by the provisions
19 of this subsection. CLEET shall periodically review each approved
20 instructor during a training and qualification course to assure
21 compliance with the rules and course contents. Any violation of the
22 rules may result in the revocation or suspension of CLEET and
23 Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation approval. Unless the
24 approval has been revoked or suspended, a firearms instructor's

1 CLEET approval shall be for a term of five (5) years. ~~Beginning on~~
2 ~~July 1, 2003, any firearms instructor who has been issued a four-~~
3 ~~year CLEET approval shall not be eligible for the five-year approval~~
4 ~~until the expiration of the approval previously issued.~~ CLEET shall
5 be responsible for notifying all approved firearms instructors of
6 statutory and policy changes related to the Oklahoma Self-Defense
7 Act. A firearms instructor shall not be required to submit his or
8 her fingerprints for a fingerprint search when renewing a firearms
9 instructor's CLEET approval.

10 C. 1. All firearms instructors approved by CLEET to train and
11 qualify individuals for a handgun license shall be required to apply
12 for registration with the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation
13 after receiving CLEET approval. All firearms instructors teaching
14 the approved course for a handgun license must display their
15 registration certificate during each training and qualification
16 course. Each approved firearms instructor shall complete a
17 registration form provided by the Bureau and shall have the option
18 to pay a registration fee of either One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)
19 for a five-year registration certificate or Two Hundred Dollars
20 (\$200.00) for a ten-year registration certificate to the Bureau at
21 the time of each application for registration, except as provided in
22 paragraph 2 of this subsection. Registration certificates issued by
23 the Bureau shall be valid for a period of five (5) years or ten (10)
24 years from the date of issuance. The Bureau shall issue a five-year

1 or ten-year handgun license to an approved firearms instructor at
2 the time of issuance of a registration certificate and no additional
3 fee shall be required or charged. The Bureau shall maintain a
4 current listing of all registered firearms instructors in this
5 state. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to eliminate
6 the requirement for registration and training with CLEET as provided
7 in subsection B of this section. Failure to register or be trained
8 as required shall result in a revocation or suspension of the
9 instructor certificate by the Bureau.

10 2. ~~On or after July 1, 2003, the registered~~ Registered
11 instructors listed in subparagraphs a and b of this paragraph shall
12 not be required to renew the firearms instructor registration
13 certificate with the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation at the
14 expiration of the registration term, provided the instructor is not
15 subject to any suspension or revocation of the firearms instructor
16 certificate. The firearms instructor registration with the Oklahoma
17 State Bureau of Investigation shall automatically renew together
18 with the handgun license authorized in paragraph 1 of this
19 subsection for an additional five-year term and no additional cost
20 or fee may be charged for the following individuals:

- 21 a. an active duty law enforcement officer of this state
22 or any of its political subdivisions or of the federal
23 government who has a valid CLEET approval as a
24

1 firearms instructor pursuant to the Oklahoma Self-
2 Defense Act, and

3 b. a retired law enforcement officer authorized to carry
4 a firearm pursuant to Section 1289.8 of this title who
5 has a valid CLEET approval as a firearms instructor
6 pursuant to the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act.

7 D. The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation shall approve
8 registration for a firearms instructor applicant who is in full
9 compliance with CLEET rules regarding firearms instructors and the
10 provisions of subsection B of this section, if completion of the
11 federal fingerprint search is the only reason for delay of
12 registration of that firearms instructor applicant. Upon receipt of
13 the federal fingerprint search information, if the Bureau receives
14 information which precludes the person from having a handgun
15 license, the Bureau shall revoke both the registration and the
16 handgun license previously issued to the firearms instructor.

17 E. The required firearms safety and training course and the
18 actual demonstration of competency and qualification required of the
19 applicant shall be designed and conducted in such a manner that the
20 course can be reasonably completed by the applicant within an eight-
21 hour period. CLEET shall establish the course content and
22 promulgate rules, procedures and forms necessary to implement the
23 provisions of this subsection. For the training and qualification
24 course, an applicant may be charged a fee which shall be determined

1 by the instructor or entity that is conducting the course. The
2 maximum class size shall be determined by the instructor conducting
3 the course; provided, however, practice shooting sessions shall not
4 have more than ten participating students at one time. CLEET may
5 establish criteria for assistant instructors and any other
6 requirements deemed necessary to conduct a safe and effective
7 training and qualification course. The course content shall include
8 a safety inspection of the firearm to be used by the applicant in
9 the training course; instruction on pistol handling, safety and
10 storage; dynamics of ammunition and firing; methods or positions for
11 firing a pistol; information about the criminal provisions of the
12 Oklahoma law relating to firearms; the requirements of the Oklahoma
13 Self-Defense Act as it relates to the applicant; self-defense and
14 the use of appropriate force; a practice shooting session; and a
15 familiarization course. The firearms instructor shall refuse to
16 train or qualify any person when the pistol to be used or carried by
17 the person is either deemed unsafe or unfit for firing or is a
18 weapon not authorized by the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act. The course
19 shall provide an opportunity for the applicant to qualify himself or
20 herself ~~on either a derringer, a revolver, a semiautomatic~~ with a
21 ~~pistol or any combination of a derringer, a revolver and a~~
22 ~~semiautomatic pistol,~~ ; provided, no pistol shall be capable of
23 firing larger than .45 caliber ammunition. Any applicant who
24 successfully trains and qualifies himself or herself with a

1 ~~semiautomatic~~ pistol ~~may~~ shall be approved by the firearms
2 instructor on the training certificate ~~for a semiautomatic pistol, a~~
3 ~~revolver and a derringer upon request of the applicant. Any person~~
4 ~~who qualifies on a derringer or revolver shall not be eligible for a~~
5 ~~semiautomatic rating until the person has demonstrated competence~~
6 ~~and qualifications on a semiautomatic pistol.~~ Upon successful
7 completion of the training and qualification course, a certificate
8 of training and a certificate of competency and qualification shall
9 be issued to each applicant who successfully completes the course.
10 The certificate of training and certificate of competency and
11 qualification shall comply with the forms established by CLEET and
12 shall be submitted with an application for a handgun license
13 pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 2 of subsection A of Section
14 1290.12 of this title. The certificate of training and certificate
15 of competency and qualification issued to an applicant shall be
16 valid for a period of three (3) years.

17 F. There is hereby created a revolving fund for the Council on
18 Law Enforcement Education and Training (CLEET), to be designated the
19 "Firearms Instructors Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a
20 continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall
21 consist of all funds received for approval of firearms instructors
22 for purposes of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act. All funds received
23 shall be deposited to the fund. All monies accruing to the credit
24 of ~~said~~ the fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and

1 expended by the Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training,
2 for implementation of the training and qualification course
3 contents, approval of firearms instructors and any other CLEET
4 requirement pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense
5 Act or as may otherwise be deemed appropriate by CLEET.

6 Expenditures from ~~said~~ the fund shall be made upon warrants issued
7 by the State Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by law
8 with the Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise
9 Services for approval and payment.

10 G. Firearms instructors shall keep on file for a period of not
11 less than three (3) years a roster of each training class, the
12 safety test score of each individual, the caliber and ~~type of the~~ the
13 weapon each individual used when qualifying and whether or not each
14 individual successfully completed the training course. Firearms
15 instructors shall be authorized to destroy all training documents
16 and records upon expiration of the three-year time period.

17 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 21 O.S. 2021, Section 1290.15, is
18 amended to read as follows:

19 Section 1290.15.

20 PERSONS EXEMPT FROM TRAINING COURSE

21 A. The following individuals may be exempt from all or part of
22 the required training and qualification course established pursuant
23 to the provisions of Section 1290.14 of this title:

1 1. A firearms instructor registered with the Oklahoma State
2 Bureau of Investigation for purposes of the Oklahoma Self-Defense
3 Act;

4 2. An active duty or reserve duty law enforcement officer of
5 this state or any of its political subdivisions or of the federal
6 government;

7 3. A retired law enforcement officer authorized by this state
8 pursuant to Section 1289.8 of this title to carry a firearm;

9 4. A Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training (CLEET)
10 certified armed security officer, armed guard, correctional officer,
11 or any other person having a CLEET certification to carry a firearm
12 in the course of their employment;

13 5. A person on active military duty, National Guard duty or
14 regular military reserve duty who is a legal resident of this state
15 and who is trained and qualified in the use of handguns;

16 6. A person honorably discharged from active military duty,
17 National Guard duty or military reserves ~~within twenty (20) years~~
18 ~~preceding the date of the application for a handgun license pursuant~~
19 ~~to the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act,~~ who is a legal
20 resident of this state, ~~and who has been trained and qualified in~~
21 ~~the use of handguns;~~

22 7. A person retired as a peace officer in good standing from a
23 law enforcement agency located in another state, who is a legal
24

1 resident of this state, and who has received training equivalent to
2 the training required for CLEET certification in this state; and

3 8. Any person who is otherwise deemed qualified for a training
4 exemption by CLEET.

5 ~~B. No person who is determined to be exempt from training or~~
6 ~~qualification may carry a concealed or unconcealed firearm pursuant~~
7 ~~to the authority of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act until issued a~~
8 ~~valid handgun license or possesses a valid military identification~~
9 ~~card as provided for qualified persons in Section 1290.8 of this~~
10 ~~title.~~

11 ~~C.~~ Nothing contained in any provision of the Oklahoma Self-
12 Defense Act shall be construed to alter, amend, or modify the
13 authority of any active duty law enforcement officer, or any person
14 certified by the Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training
15 to carry a pistol during the course of their employment, to carry
16 any pistol in any manner authorized by law or authorized by the
17 employing agency.

18 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2023.

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