



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

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A Weekly Column for the
Week of July 18, 2005

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Concealed Carry Flaw Fixed

JEFFERSON CITY – Missouri lawmakers this year fixed a funding flaw in the state’s concealed carry law approved in 2003 that had prevented some Missourians from being able to apply for concealed-weapons permits.

Earlier this month, Governor Matt Blunt signed House Bill 365 into law, which allows money from a county sheriff’s fund to be used for expenses involved in processing concealed carry applications.

Last year, the Missouri Supreme Court ruled that police and sheriff departments in the state did not have to process applications, saying costs incurred by the departments above the permit fees violated state law.

The new law authorizes the sheriff of every county to pay costs and expenses for activities related to the issuing of concealed carry permits from the “County Sheriff’s Revolving Fund.” Those expenditures include but are not limited to training, fingerprinting, background checks, employment of personnel and purchase of equipment. Prior to passage of HB 365, the fund could only be used for the purchase of equipment and training.

Additionally, the new law allows police and sheriff’s departments to seek reimbursement from the state if the cost of processing applications exceeds the fees charged.

Missourians who wish to apply for a concealed carry permit must appear in person at their local application site, provide a valid Missouri driver’s license, state identification card or

military identification, complete an application, submit a copy of the firearms qualification certificate and pay the fee.

The permitting process can take up to 45 days, and applicants are notified by mail whether their application has been approved or denied. If the permit is approved, it must be carried when a person is in possession of a concealed firearm.

If you have questions or comments about this or any other issue, please feel free to contact me at 573-751-8793 or by e-mail at: delbertscott@senate.state.mo.us

Senator Delbert Scott represents the people of Barton, Benton, Cedar, Dallas, Henry, Hickory, Pettis, Polk and St. Clair counties in the Missouri Senate.