

FACT SHEET

Senate Bill 656

Following is an overview of what has, and will become law, as a result of the successful legislative override of the gubernatorial veto of Senate Bill 656. The bill modifies provisions relating to county sheriffs, self-defense, unlawful use of weapons and concealed carry permits.

**Note: This document is not intended to be, nor shall it be considered legal advice. Rather, it is a simple summary of SB 656. Please seek practicing, bar-admitted professionals for a legal opinion before implementing these sections for self-defense actions.*

- Senate Bill 656 improves the ability of law-abiding gun owners to exercise their Second Amendment rights.
- The bill does not eliminate or restrict the current Concealed Carry process for obtaining a permit, which has been in place since 2003.
- Under this bill, Missouri will continue to maintain its Concealed Carry (CCW) permit system, which allows permit holders to carry into other Right to Carry states.
- Concealed Carry permit holders continue to be able to carry, **with permission**, into the following places that are restricted: schools; colleges and universities; child care facilities; casinos; churches; posted private property; government-owned buildings; restaurants/bars; and law enforcement offices / police stations.
- The following locations continue to prohibit all concealed weapons, including those carried by CCW permit holders: amusement parks; sports arenas with over 5,000 seating capacity; hospitals; courthouses; government meetings; within 25 feet of polling places; prisons/jails; airports; federal buildings; and on public transportation.
- In accordance with current law, CCW permit holders can still openly carry even in communities that have prohibited open carry. This is due to a bill passed by the legislature in 2014 that supersedes local ordinances that prohibit open carry. Nothing in SB 656 changes this.
- Key components of SB 656 that go into effect immediately include:
 - **Military Permit Renewal**, which provides for a permit renewal grace period for service men and women who are serving overseas.

- Key components of SB 656 that go into effect Oct. 14 include:
 - **\$100 Max Fee for Five-Year CCW Permit**, which provides that no sheriff may charge more than \$100 for a five-year CCW permit, including the background check fee. Also, CCW permit applicants will be able to pay by credit card. Service charges may apply.
 - **Background Check**, which allows rural third-class county sheriffs to process background checks for professional registration requirement such as teachers, schools bus drivers, doctors, etc.
 - **CCW Permit Fee Use**, which increases the amount of the CCW fees sheriffs are allowed to use to help pay for equipment expenses, as intended by original law.
 - **Babysitter Castle Doctrine**, which allows persons who have been authorized by the property owner to be on or in their property to use deadly force as necessary.
 - **Online CCW Training**, which allows for a portion of CCW training to be held online. While this will ensure that basic firearm components are covered and tested, it does not impact the classroom or actual shooting competency portion of the training.
 - **Lifetime Permits**, which allows Missouri citizens to obtain a 10-year, 25-year or 50-year permit that is valid only in Missouri. Fees are \$200, \$250 and \$500, respectively. All renewal background checks, as with a five year permit, are included in the process.
 - **Stand Your Ground**, which provides an additional legal defense option by removing the requirement that a person retreat before using force in situations where such person is reasonably in fear of their safety or the safety of another.

- The following components will go into effect Jan. 1, 2017, so as not to conflict with the re-write of the Missouri Criminal Code:
 - **Constitutional Carry**, which allows for the legal carrying of a concealed handgun without the requirement of a government permit.
 - **Prosecutor and Judge Carry**, which allows municipal and county prosecuting and assistant prosecuting attorneys, as well as municipal, associate or circuit judges to carry a firearm for self-defense with a CCW permit.

- **Fire Department Staff Carry**, which allows members of a fire department or fire protection district to carry a firearm on the job, with permission from their governing body.

- Existing permit holders and potential permit holders should maintain or obtain their permits to help protect themselves from any potential legal issues or entering restricted locations accidentally.

- **There is nothing in SB 656 that makes it legal for a convicted felon to legally obtain or carry a firearm.**

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