



OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Bill Analysis

Nicholas A. Keller

S.B. 81

132nd General Assembly
(As Reported by S. Judiciary)

Sens. Terhar, Coley

BILL SUMMARY

- Waives the payment of the license fee that is otherwise required to obtain a concealed handgun license for applicants who are active or reserve members of the armed forces of the United States, or who have retired from or were honorably discharged from such military service.
- Caps the waiver of license fees described in the preceding dot point at \$1,500,000 each calendar year.
- Permits an applicant for a concealed handgun license who has retired from or has been honorably discharged from military service to submit evidence of the applicant's military service as proof of competency regardless of the date that the applicant retired or was honorably discharged.
- Permits a licensee who wishes to renew a concealed handgun license to do so at any time before the expiration date of the license.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Waiver of payment of concealed handgun license fee

The bill generally requires a sheriff who receives an initial or renewal application for a concealed handgun license to waive the payment of the license fee for applicants who are active or reserve members of the armed forces of the United States, or who have retired from or were honorably discharged from military service in the active or reserve armed forces of the United States. The bill also requires the sheriff to transmit a notice to the Attorney General, in a manner determined by the Attorney General, every time a fee is waived under this provision. The Attorney General must monitor the fees

waived and inform sheriffs if the total amount of fees waived under this provision reaches or exceeds \$1,500,000. If a sheriff has received notice that the annual waiver limit has been met, the sheriff may not waive the payment of the license fee for the remainder of that year.

The application fee for other applicants remains \$67. Nonresidents or residents for less than five years must also pay the cost of an FBI background check, but that cost is waived under the bill for an active or reserve member of the armed forces of the United States or person retired from or honorably discharged from military service in the active or reserve armed forces of the United States.¹

Concealed handgun license competency certification

The bill removes the requirement that an applicant for a concealed handgun license who has retired from or has been honorably discharged from military service in the active or reserve armed forces of the United States have retired or been honorably discharged within the ten years immediately preceding the application for the applicant to be exempt from the additional firearms training requirements of the Concealed Carry Law. Instead, an applicant who has retired from or has been honorably discharged from such military service at any time prior to the application is not required to undergo any additional training, provided that the applicant can provide the applicant's firearms competency certification.²

Continuing law requires an applicant for a concealed handgun license to provide a competency certification. The type of competency certification varies based upon the background of the applicant, and can include a requirement that the applicant complete a firearms safety, training, or requalification or firearms safety instructor course, class, or program. Under current law, an applicant who has retired from or was honorably discharged from military service in the active or reserve armed forces of the United States within the ten years immediately preceding the application is not required to complete any additional training, provided that the applicant can provide a document that evidences that the applicant has retired from or was honorably discharged from military service within the previous ten years and that, through participation in the military service the applicant acquired experience with handling handguns or other firearms, and the experience was equivalent to training that the applicant could have

¹ R.C. 2923.125(B)(1) and (I)(2).

² R.C. 2923.125(B)(3).

acquired in a course, class, or program otherwise required for certification of other applicants.³

Renewal of concealed handgun license

Under existing law, a licensee who wishes to renew a concealed handgun license must do so not earlier than 90 days before the expiration date of the license or at any time after the expiration of the license. The bill removes the 90 day time frame and instead permits a licensee to renew the license at any time before the expiration of the license.⁴

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	03-02-17
Reported, S. Judiciary	12-06-17

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³ R.C. 2923.125(B)(3)(d).

⁴ R.C. 2923.125(F)(1)(a).

