

SENATE BILL No. 127

DIGEST OF SB 127 (Updated January 8, 2020 4:29 pm - DI 135)

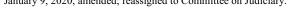
Citations Affected: IC 21-17; IC 35-31.5; IC 35-47.

Synopsis: Handgun training. Requires a person who applies after December 31, 2020, for a license to carry a handgun to first complete an eight hour handgun safety and training program, unless the person is a law enforcement officer, a retired law enforcement officer, or an active or honorably discharged member of the armed forces of the United States. Eliminates a requirement that an applicant for a handgun license must inform the officer to whom the application is made of the reason the applicant is applying for the license. Makes conforming amendments amendments.

Effective: July 1, 2020.

Breaux

January 6, 2020, read first time and referred to Committee on Rules and Legislative January 9, 2020, amended; reassigned to Committee on Judiciary.





Second Regular Session of the 121st General Assembly (2020)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in this style type, and deletions will appear in this style type.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or *this style type* reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2019 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 127

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning criminal law and procedure.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. IC 21-17-5-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.107-2019,
SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 6. Whenever a police officer retires after at least
twenty (20) years of service, the police officer may retain the officer's
service weapon. The officer is entitled to receive, in recognition of the
service to the educational institution and the public, a badge that
indicates that the officer is retired. Upon retirement, the state police
department shall issue to the police officer an identification card that:
(1) states the police officer's name and rank at retirement;

- (2) states the officer's retired status; and(3) notes the officer's authority to retain the service weapon.
- A retired police officer described in this section is entitled to a lifetime license to carry a handgun as described under IC 35-47-2-3(f). **IC 35-47-2-3(g).**
- SECTION 2. IC 35-31.5-2-185, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2015, SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 185. (a) "Law enforcement officer" means:

SB 127—LS 6360/DI 13



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The superintendent and local law enforcement agencies shall allow an applicant desiring to obtain or renew a license to carry a handgun to



submit an application electronically under this chapter if funds are available to establish and maintain an electronic application system.

- (b) This subsection applies before July 1, 2020. The law enforcement agency which accepts an application for a handgun license shall collect the following application fees:
 - (1) From a person applying for a four (4) year handgun license, a ten dollar (\$10) application fee, five dollars (\$5) of which shall be refunded if the license is not issued.
 - (2) From a person applying for a lifetime handgun license who does not currently possess a valid Indiana handgun license, a fifty dollar (\$50) application fee, thirty dollars (\$30) of which shall be refunded if the license is not issued.
 - (3) From a person applying for a lifetime handgun license who currently possesses a valid Indiana handgun license, a forty dollar (\$40) application fee, thirty dollars (\$30) of which shall be refunded if the license is not issued.

Except as provided in subsection (i), (j), the fee shall be deposited into the law enforcement agency's firearms training fund or other appropriate training activities fund and used by the agency to train law enforcement officers in the proper use of firearms or in other law enforcement duties, or to purchase firearms, firearm related equipment, or body armor (as defined in IC 35-47-5-13(a)) for the law enforcement officers employed by the law enforcement agency. The state board of accounts shall establish rules for the proper accounting and expenditure of funds collected under this subsection.

- (c) This subsection applies after June 30, 2020. The law enforcement agency which accepts an application for a handgun license shall not collect a fee from a person applying for a five (5) year handgun license and shall collect the following application fees:
 - (1) From a person applying for a lifetime handgun license who does not currently possess a valid Indiana handgun license, a fifty dollar (\$50) application fee, thirty dollars (\$30) of which shall be refunded if the license is not issued.
 - (2) From a person applying for a lifetime handgun license who currently possesses a valid Indiana handgun license, a forty dollar (\$40) application fee, thirty dollars (\$30) of which shall be refunded if the license is not issued.

Except as provided in subsection (i), (j), the fee shall be deposited into the law enforcement agency's firearms training fund or other appropriate training activities fund and used by the agency to train law enforcement officers in the proper use of firearms or in other law enforcement duties, or to purchase firearms, firearm related equipment,



1	or body armor (as defined in IC 35-47-5-13(a)) for the law enforcement
2	officers employed by the law enforcement agency. The state board of
3	accounts shall establish rules for the proper accounting and expenditure
4	of funds collected under this subsection.
5	(d) The officer to whom the application is made shall ascertain the
6	A person desiring a license to carry a handgun shall provide the
7	following information to the appropriate person described under
8	subsection (a):
9	(1) The applicant's:
10	(A) name;
11	(B) full address; and
12	(C) length of residence in the community;
13	and, if applicable, whether the applicant's residence is located
14	within the limits of any city or town.
15	(2) The applicant's occupation and place of business or
16	employment.
17	(3) If applicable, the applicant's criminal record, if any, and
18	including all convictions (minor traffic offenses excepted).
19	(4) The applicant's:
20	(A) age;
21	(B) race;
22	(C) sex;
23	(D) nationality;
24	(E) date of birth;
25	(F) citizenship;
26	(G) height;
27	(H) weight;
28	(I) build;
29	(J) color of hair;
30	(K) color of eyes; and
31	(L) scars and marks, if applicable.
32	(5) Whether the applicant has previously held an Indiana license
33	to carry a handgun and if so the following information:
34	(A) The serial number of the license. and
35	(B) The year issued; of issuance of the license.
36	(C) Whether the applicant's license has ever been suspended
37	or revoked. and if so,
38	(D) The year and reason for the any suspension or revocation
39	and the applicant's reason for desiring a license. described
40	under clause (C).
41	(6) For an application submitted after December 31, 2020:
42	(A) a certificate signifying that the person has successfully



completed a handgun safety and training program that
meets the requirements set forth in section 3.5 of this
chapter; or
(B) documentary evidence that the person is exempt under
section 3.5(d) of this chapter from the handgun safety and
training program requirement because the person is a law
enforcement officer, a retired law enforcement officer, or
an active or honorably discharged member of the armed
forces of the United States. The state police department
shall determine what documentary evidence is sufficient to
establish an exemption under this clause.
(e) If the applicant is not a United States citizen, the officer to whom
the application is made shall ascertain the applicant's following
information about the applicant:
(1) Country of citizenship.
(2) Place of birth. and
(3) Any alien or admission number issued by:
(A) the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services:
or
(B) the United States Customs and Border Protection; or
(C) any successor agency as applicable.
The officer to whom the application is made shall conduct an
investigation into the applicant's official records and verify thereby the
applicant's character and reputation, and shall in addition verify for
accuracy the information contained in the application, and shall
forward this information together with the officer's recommendation for
approval or disapproval and one (1) set of legible and classifiable
fingerprints of the applicant to the superintendent. An investigation
conducted under this section must include the consulting of available
local, state, and federal criminal history data banks, including the
National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS), to
determine whether possession of a firearm by an applicant would be a
violation of state or federal law.
(e) (f) The superintendent may make whatever further investigation
the superintendent deems necessary. Whenever disapproval is
recommended, the officer to whom the application is made shall
provide the superintendent and the applicant with the officer's complete
and specific reasons, in writing, for the recommendation of
disapproval.
(f) (g) If it appears to the superintendent that the applicant:
(1) has a proper reason for earrying a handgun;
(2) (1) is of good character and reputation;



1	(3) (2) is a proper person to be licensed; and
2	(4) (3) is:
3	(A) a citizen of the United States; or
4	(B) not a citizen of the United States but is allowed to carry a
5	firearm in the United States under federal law;
6	the superintendent shall issue to the applicant a qualified or an
7	unlimited license to carry any handgun lawfully possessed by the
8	applicant. The original license shall be delivered to the licensee. A
9	copy shall be delivered to the officer to whom the application for
10	license was made. A copy shall be retained by the superintendent for
11	at least five (5) years in the case of a five (5) year license. The
12	superintendent may adopt guidelines to establish a records retention
13	policy for a lifetime license. A five (5) year license shall be valid for a
14	period of five (5) years from the date of issue. A lifetime license is
15	valid for the life of the individual receiving the license. The license of
16	police officers, sheriffs or their deputies, and law enforcement officers
17	of the United States government who have twenty (20) or more years
18	of service shall be valid for the life of these individuals. However, a
19	lifetime license is automatically revoked if the license holder does not
20	remain a proper person.
21	(g) (h) At the time a license is issued and delivered to a licensee
22	under subsection (f), (g), the superintendent shall include with the
23	license information concerning handgun safety rules that:
24	(1) neither opposes nor supports an individual's right to bear
25	arms; and
26	(2) is:
27	(A) recommended by a nonprofit educational organization that
28	is dedicated to providing education on safe handling and use
29	of firearms;
30	(B) prepared by the state police department; and
31	(C) approved by the superintendent.
32	The superintendent may not deny a license under this section because
33	the information required under this subsection is unavailable at the
34	time the superintendent would otherwise issue a license. The state
35	police department may accept private donations or grants to defray the
36	cost of printing and mailing the information required under this
37	subsection.
38	(h) (i) A license to carry a handgun shall not be issued to any person
39	who:
40	(1) has been convicted of a felony;
41	(2) has had a license to carry a handgun suspended, unless the



person's license has been reinstated;

1	(3) is under eighteen (18) years of age;
2	(4) is under twenty-three (23) years of age if the person has been
3	adjudicated a delinquent child for an act that would be a felony if
4	committed by an adult;
5	(5) has been arrested for a Class A or Class B felony for an
6	offense committed before July 1, 2014, for a Level 1, Level 2,
7	Level 3, or Level 4 felony for an offense committed after June 30,
8	2014, or any other felony that was committed while armed with
9	a deadly weapon or that involved the use of violence, if a court
10	has found probable cause to believe that the person committed the
11	offense charged; or
12	(6) is prohibited by federal law from possessing or receiving
13	firearms under 18 U.S.C. 922(g).
14	In the case of an arrest under subdivision (5), a license to carry a
15	handgun may be issued to a person who has been acquitted of the
16	specific offense charged or if the charges for the specific offense are
17	dismissed. The superintendent shall prescribe all forms to be used in
18	connection with the administration of this chapter.
19	(i) (j) If the law enforcement agency that charges a fee under
20	subsection (b) or (c) is a city or town law enforcement agency, the fee
21	shall be deposited in the law enforcement continuing education fund
22	established under IC 5-2-8-2.
23	(j) (k) If a person who holds a valid license to carry a handgun
24	issued under this chapter:
25	(1) changes the person's name;
26	(2) changes the person's address; or
27	(3) experiences a change, including an arrest or a conviction, that
28	may affect the person's status as a proper person (as defined in
29	IC 35-47-1-7) or otherwise disqualify the person from holding a
30	license;
31	the person shall, not later than thirty (30) days after the date of a
32	change described under subdivision (3), and not later than sixty (60)
33	days after the date of the change described under subdivision (1) or (2),
34	notify the superintendent, in writing, of the event described under
35	subdivision (3) or, in the case of a change under subdivision (1) or (2),
36	the person's new name or new address.
37	(k) (I) The state police shall indicate on the form for a license to
38	carry a handgun the notification requirements of subsection (j). (k).
39	(1) (m) The state police department shall adopt rules under
40	IC 4-22-2 to:
41	(1) implement an electronic application system under subsection



(a); and

1 2	(2) expedite the processing of an application made by a person described in section 2.1(b) of this chapter.
3	Rules adopted under this section must require the superintendent to
4	keep on file one (1) set of classifiable and legible fingerprints from
5	every person who has received a license to carry a handgun so that a
6	person who applies to renew a license will not be required to submit an
7	additional set of fingerprints.
8	(m) (n) Except as provided in subsection (n), (o), for purposes of
9	IC 5-14-3-4(a)(1), the following information is confidential, may not
10	be published, and is not open to public inspection:
11	(1) Information submitted by a person under this section to:
12	(A) obtain; or
13	(B) renew;
14	a license to carry a handgun.
15	(2) Information obtained by a federal, state, or local government
16	entity in the course of an investigation concerning a person who
17	applies to:
18	(A) obtain; or
19	(B) renew;
20	a license to carry a handgun issued under this chapter.
21 22 23 24 25	(3) The name, address, and any other information that may be
22	used to identify a person who holds a license to carry a handgun
23	issued under this chapter.
24	(n) (o) Notwithstanding subsection (m):
25	(1) any information concerning an applicant for or a person who
26	holds a license to carry a handgun issued under this chapter may
27	be released to a federal, state, or local government entity:
28	(A) for law enforcement purposes; or
29	(B) to determine the validity of a license to carry a handgun;
30	and
31	(2) general information concerning the issuance of licenses to
32	carry handguns in Indiana may be released to a person conducting
33	journalistic or academic research, but only if all personal
34	information that could disclose the identity of any person who
35	holds a license to carry a handgun issued under this chapter has
36	been removed from the general information.
37	(o) (p) A person who knowingly or intentionally violates this section
38	commits a Class B misdemeanor.
39 40	SECTION 4. IC 35-47-2-3.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
+0 41	AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
	1, 2020]: Sec. 3.5. (a) Except as provided in subsection (d), a person
42	who applies after December 31, 2020, for a license to carry a



1	handgun must:
2	(1) successfully complete a handgun safety and training
3	program that meets the requirements of this section; and
4	(2) certify under section 3(d)(6)(A) of this chapter the person's
5	successful completion of the handgun safety and training
6	program;
7	before a license to carry a handgun may be issued to the applicant
8	under this chapter.
9	(b) A handgun safety and training program must meet the
10	following requirements:
11	(1) The program must consist of at least eight (8) hours of
12	instruction, as specified in this section.
13	(2) The:
14	(A) program must be certified by a state or national
15	firearms training organization; and
16	(B) instructor must be:
17	(i) certified by a state or national firearms training
18	organization; and
19	(ii) qualified to teach an eight (8) hour handgun safety
20	and training program.
21	(3) The program must provide at least five (5) hours of
22	instruction in the following:
23	(A) The safe storage, use, and handling of a handgun,
24	including safe storage, use, and handling to protect child
25	safety.
26	(B) Knowledge of ammunition.
27	(C) Handgun firing positions.
28	(D) Firearms and the law, including civil liability issues
29	and the use of deadly force. The instruction in the subject
30	described in this clause must be provided by an attorney or
31	a person trained in the use of deadly force.
32	(E) Avoiding a criminal attack and controlling a violent
33	confrontation.
34	(F) All laws that apply to carrying a concealed handgun in
35	Indiana.
36	(4) The program must:
37	(A) provide at least three (3) hours of instruction on a
38	firing range; and
39	(B) require the firing of at least forty-five (45) rounds of
40	ammunition.
41	(5) The program must provide to a person who successfully
42	completes the program a certificate of completion stating



1	that:
2	(A) the program complies with this section; and
3	(B) the person has successfully completed the program.
4	The certificate must contain the printed name and signature
5	of the instructor who instructed the person.
6	(c) A person who grants a certificate of completion described in
7	subsection (b)(5) to an individual knowing that the individual did
8	not satisfactorily complete the program commits a Level 6 felony.
9	(d) The following individuals are not required to complete the
10	handgun safety and training program described in this section:
11	(1) A law enforcement officer (as defined in IC 35-47-15-3).
12	(2) A retired law enforcement officer who is authorized to
13	carry a weapon under IC 35-47-15.
14	(3) An active or honorably discharged member of the armed
15	forces of the United States (as defined in IC 10-18-9-1).
16	A person described in this subsection who applies after December
17	31, 2020, for a license to carry a handgun must submit
18	documentary evidence showing that the person is exempt from the
19	requirement to complete the handgun safety and training program
20	under section 3(d)(6)(B) of this chapter if the person wishes to
21	claim the exemption.
22	(e) A person described in subsection (d) may, at the person's
23	discretion, participate in the handgun safety and training program
24	and obtain a license to carry a handgun on the same basis as a
25	person not described in subsection (d).
26	SECTION 5. IC 35-47-2-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.107-2019,
27	SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
28	JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 4. (a) Licenses to carry handguns shall be either
29	qualified or unlimited, and are valid for:
30	(1) five (5) years from the date of issue in the case of a five (5)
31	year license; or
32	(2) the life of the individual receiving the license in the case of a
33	lifetime license.
34	A qualified license shall be issued for hunting and target practice. An
35	individual may separately apply for and simultaneously hold both a five
36	(5) year license and a lifetime license. The superintendent may adopt
37	rules imposing limitations on the use and carrying of handguns under
38	a license when handguns are carried by a licensee as a condition of
39	employment. Unlimited licenses shall be issued for the purpose of the
40	protection of life and property.
41	(b) This subsection applies before July 1, 2020. In addition to the



application fee, the fee for:

1	(1) a qualified license shall be:
2	(A) five dollars (\$5) for a five (5) year qualified license;
3	(B) twenty-five dollars (\$25) for a lifetime qualified license
4	from a person who does not currently possess a valid Indiana
5	handgun license; or
6	(C) twenty dollars (\$20) for a lifetime qualified license from
7	a person who currently possesses a valid Indiana handgun
8	license; and
9	(2) an unlimited license shall be:
10	(A) thirty dollars (\$30) for a five (5) year unlimited license;
11	(B) seventy-five dollars (\$75) for a lifetime unlimited license
12	from a person who does not currently possess a valid Indiana
13	handgun license; or
14	(C) sixty dollars (\$60) for a lifetime unlimited license from a
15	person who currently possesses a valid Indiana handgun
16	license.
17	The superintendent shall charge a twenty dollar (\$20) fee for the
18	issuance of a duplicate license to replace a lost or damaged license.
19	These fees shall be deposited in accordance with subsection (g).
20	(c) This subsection applies after June 30, 2020. In addition to the
21	application fee, the fee for:
22	(1) a qualified license is:
23	(A) zero dollars (\$0) for a five (5) year qualified license;
24	(B) twenty-five dollars (\$25) for a lifetime qualified license
25	from a person who does not currently possess a valid Indiana
26	handgun license; and
27	(C) twenty dollars (\$20) for a lifetime qualified license from
28	a person who currently possesses a valid Indiana handgun
29	license; and
30	(2) an unlimited license is:
31	(A) zero dollars (\$0) for a five (5) year unlimited license;
32	(B) seventy-five dollars (\$75) for a lifetime unlimited license
33	from a person who does not currently possess a valid Indiana
34	handgun license; and
35	(C) sixty dollars (\$60) for a lifetime unlimited license from a
36	person who currently possesses a valid Indiana handgun
37	license.
38	The superintendent shall charge a twenty dollar (\$20) fee for the
39	issuance of a duplicate license to replace a lost or damaged license.
40	These fees shall be deposited in accordance with subsection (g).
41	(d) Licensed dealers are exempt from the payment of fees specified
42	in subsections (b) and (c) for a qualified license or an unlimited



license.

- (e) The following officers of this state or the United States who have been honorably retired by a lawfully created pension board or its equivalent after at least twenty (20) years of service or because of a disability are exempt from the payment of fees specified in subsections (b) and (c):
 - (1) Police officers.
 - (2) Sheriffs or their deputies.
 - (3) Law enforcement officers.
 - (4) Correctional officers.
- (f) The following officers described in section 3(f) 3(g) of this chapter who have at least twenty (20) years of service are exempt from the payment of fees for a lifetime qualified license or a lifetime unlimited license specified in subsections (b) and (c):
 - (1) Police officers.
 - (2) Sheriffs or their deputies.
 - (3) Law enforcement officers of the United States government.
- (g) Fees collected under this section shall be deposited in the state general fund.
- (h) The superintendent may not issue a lifetime qualified license or a lifetime unlimited license to a person who is a resident of another state. The superintendent may issue a five (5) year qualified license or a five (5) year unlimited license to a person who is a resident of another state and who has a regular place of business or employment in Indiana as described in section 3(a)(3) of this chapter.
- (i) A person who knowingly or intentionally violates this section commits a Class B misdemeanor.
- SECTION 6. IC 35-47-2-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.107-2019, SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 5. (a) The superintendent may suspend or revoke any license issued under this chapter if the superintendent has reasonable grounds to believe that the person's license should be suspended or revoked.
- (b) Documented evidence that a person is not a "proper person" to be licensed as defined by IC 35-47-1-7, or is prohibited under section 3(h)(5) (3)(i)(5) of this chapter from being issued a license, shall be grounds for immediate suspension or revocation of a license previously issued under this chapter. However, if a license is suspended or revoked based solely on an arrest under section 3(h)(5) (3)(i)(5) of this chapter, the license shall be reinstated upon the acquittal of the defendant in that case or upon the dismissal of the charges for the specific offense.



(c) A person who knowingly or intentionally fails to promptly return
the person's license after written notice of suspension or revocation
commits a Class A misdemeanor. The observation of a handgun license
in the possession of a person whose license has been suspended or
revoked constitutes a sufficient basis for the arrest of that person for
violation of this subsection.
(d) The superintendent shall establish rules under IC 4-22-2

(d) The superintendent shall establish rules under IC 4-22-2 concerning the procedure for suspending or revoking a person's license. SECTION 7. IC 35-47-15-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.114-2012, SECTION 143, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "law enforcement officer" has the meaning set forth in IC 35-31.5-2-185. IC 35-31.5-2-185(e). The term includes an arson investigator employed by the office of the state fire marshal.



COMMITTEE REPORT

Madam President: The Senate Committee on Rules and Legislative Procedure, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 127, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill be AMENDED as follows:

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert the following:

(SEE TEXT OF BILL)

and when so amended that said bill be reassigned to the Senate Committee on Judiciary.

(Reference is to SB 127 as introduced.)

BRAY, Chairperson

