

House Bill 232

By: Representatives Marin of the 96th, Abrams of the 89th, Oliver of the 82nd, Stephens of the 165th, and Waites of the 60th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 16-11-129 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 weapons carry license, temporary renewal permit, mandamus, and verification of license, so
3 as to provide for a training requirement for certain persons making application for a weapons
4 carry license or renewal license; to provide for a definition; to provide for related matters;
5 to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Code Section 16-11-129 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to weapons
9 carry license, temporary renewal permit, mandamus, and verification of license, is amended
10 by revising subsection (a) and adding a new subsection to read as follows:

11 **"(a) Application for weapons carry license or renewal license; term.**

12 (1) Except in paragraph (4) of subsection (i) of this Code section, as used in this Code
13 section, the term 'person' means an individual.

14 (2) The judge of the probate court of each county shall, on application under oath, on
15 payment of a fee of \$30.00, on demonstration of completion of a firearms safety training
16 course as provided for under paragraph (3) of this subsection, and on investigation of an
17 applicant pursuant to subsections (b) and (d) of this Code section, issue a weapons carry
18 license or renewal license valid for a period of five years to any person whose domicile
19 is in that county or who is on active duty with the United States armed forces and who
20 is not a domiciliary of this state but who either resides in that county or on a military
21 reservation located in whole or in part in that county at the time of such application. Such
22 license or renewal license shall authorize that person to carry any weapon in any county
23 of this state notwithstanding any change in that person's county of residence or state of
24 domicile. Applicants shall submit the application for a weapons carry license or renewal
25 license to the judge of the probate court on forms prescribed and furnished free of charge
26 to persons wishing to apply for the license or renewal license. An application shall be

27 considered to be for a renewal license if the applicant has a weapons carry license or
28 renewal license with 90 or fewer days remaining before the expiration of such weapons
29 carry license or renewal license or 30 or fewer days since the expiration of such weapons
30 carry license or renewal license regardless of the county of issuance of the applicant's
31 expired or expiring weapons carry license or renewal license. An applicant who is not
32 a United States citizen shall provide sufficient personal identifying data, including
33 without limitation his or her place of birth and United States issued alien or admission
34 number, as the Georgia Bureau of Investigation may prescribe by rule or regulation. An
35 applicant who is in nonimmigrant status shall provide proof of his or her qualifications
36 for an exception to the federal firearm prohibition pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 922(y).
37 Forms shall be designed to elicit information from the applicant pertinent to his or her
38 eligibility under this Code section, including citizenship, but shall not require data which
39 is nonpertinent or irrelevant, such as serial numbers or other identification capable of
40 being used as a de facto registration of firearms owned by the applicant. The Department
41 of Public Safety shall furnish application forms and license forms required by this Code
42 section. The forms shall be furnished to each judge of each probate court within this state
43 at no cost.

44 (3) An applicant shall demonstrate completion of a firearms safety training course within
45 three years prior to the date of the application for a license under this Code section. An
46 applicant may satisfy such training requirement by:

47 (A) Submitting proof that he or she is a peace officer, as such term is defined in Code
48 Section 35-8-2;

49 (B) Submitting proof that he or she is serving on active duty with the United States
50 armed forces;

51 (C) Submitting proof that he or she is serving in the active reserve component of the
52 United States armed forces or Georgia National Guard;

53 (D) Submitting proof that he or she is a firearms safety instructor certified by the
54 National Rifle Association holding a rating as a personal protection instructor or pistol
55 marksmanship instructor; or

56 (E) Submitting proof of having received basic firearms instruction provided by a law
57 enforcement officer, a nationally recognized organization that promotes gun safety, or
58 a licensed firearms dealer. Such instruction shall include instruction on the features of
59 a handgun and a brief explanation of the loading, firing, and unloading of the weapon;
60 provided, however, that live firing shall not be required. Proof of such training shall
61 be a notarized affidavit signed by the person providing the instruction with his or her
62 address and position and an identifying number, such as a badge number or firearm

63 dealer license number, or a certificate of training issued by a national organization that
64 promotes gun safety."

65 **SECTION 2.**

66 This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2018.

67 **SECTION 3.**

68 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.