
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 311 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY HUGHES, FARNESE, HAYWOOD AND WILLIAMS,
JANUARY 23, 2015

REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, JANUARY 23, 2015

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in firearms and other dangerous
3 articles, further providing for licenses.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Section 6109(c) of Title 18 of the Pennsylvania
7 Consolidated Statutes is amended and subsection (e)(1) is
8 amended by adding a subparagraph to read:

9 § 6109. Licenses.

10 * * *

11 (c) Form of application and content.--The application for a
12 license to carry a firearm shall be uniform throughout this
13 Commonwealth and shall be on a form prescribed by the
14 Pennsylvania State Police. The form may contain provisions, not
15 exceeding one page, to assure compliance with this section.
16 Issuing authorities shall use only the application form
17 prescribed by the Pennsylvania State Police. One of the
18 following reasons for obtaining a firearm license shall be set

1 forth in the application: self-defense, employment, hunting and
2 fishing, target shooting, gun collecting or another proper
3 reason. The application form shall be dated and signed by the
4 applicant and shall contain the following statement:

5 I have never been convicted of a crime that prohibits me
6 from possessing or acquiring a firearm under Federal or
7 State law. I am of sound mind and have never been
8 committed to a mental institution. I have successfully
9 completed a firearms safety course as required by this
10 act. I hereby certify that the statements contained
11 herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge
12 and belief. I understand that, if I knowingly make any
13 false statements herein, I am subject to penalties
14 prescribed by law. I authorize the sheriff, or his
15 designee, or, in the case of first class cities, the
16 chief or head of the police department, or his designee,
17 to inspect only those records or documents relevant to
18 information required for this application. If I am issued
19 a license and knowingly become ineligible to legally
20 possess or acquire firearms, I will promptly notify the
21 sheriff of the county in which I reside or, if I reside
22 in a city of the first class, the chief of police of that
23 city.

24 * * *

25 (e) Issuance of license.--

26 (1) A license to carry a firearm shall be for the
27 purpose of carrying a firearm concealed on or about one's
28 person or in a vehicle and shall be issued if, after an
29 investigation not to exceed 45 days, it appears that the
30 applicant is an individual concerning whom no good cause

1 exists to deny the license. A license shall not be issued to
2 any of the following:

3 * * *

4 (xv) An individual who has not demonstrated
5 competence with a firearm by any one of the following:

6 (A) completion of any hunter education or hunter
7 safety course approved by the Pennsylvania Game
8 Commission or a similar agency of another state;

9 (B) completion of any National Rifle Association
10 firearms safety or training course;

11 (C) completion of any firearms safety or
12 training course or class available to the general
13 public offered by a law enforcement, educational
14 institution, private or public institution or
15 organization or firearms training school, utilizing
16 instructors certified by the National Rifle
17 Association, Criminal Justice Standards and Training
18 Commission, or the Pennsylvania State Police;

19 (D) completion of any law enforcement firearms
20 safety or training course or class offered for law
21 enforcement or security enforcement personnel;

22 (E) presentation of evidence of equivalent
23 experience with a firearm through participation in
24 organized shooting competition or military service;
25 or

26 (F) completion of any firearms training or
27 safety course or class conducted by a state-certified
28 or National Rifle Association certified firearms
29 instructor.

30 A photocopy of a certificate of completion of any of the

1 courses or classes; or an affidavit from the instructor,
2 school, club, organization, or group that conducted or
3 taught said course or class attesting to the completion
4 of the course or class by the applicant; or a copy of any
5 document which shows completion of the course or class or
6 evidences participation in firearms competition shall
7 constitute evidence of qualification under this
8 subparagraph. Any person who conducts a course pursuant
9 to clause (B), (C), or (G), or who, as an instructor,
10 attests to the completion of such courses, must maintain
11 records certifying that he or she observed the student
12 safely handle and discharge the firearm for a period of
13 two years after completion of the course by the
14 individual.

15 * * *

16 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.