



S 116: Concealed Carry in Public with No Permit and No Training

- ❑ **Bottom Line:** The gun lobby is pushing legislation in Colorado that would dismantle the concealed handgun permit requirement and let people carry hidden, loaded handguns in public without a permit or safety training. S 116 would lower the bar for who may carry concealed handguns in public in Colorado, and would let dangerous individuals and people with no safety training legally carry hidden, loaded handguns in crowded town centers and on city streets. Lawmakers should put the safety of their constituents first and reject permitless carry in Colorado.
- ❑ **The vast majority of states require that a person get a permit before carrying a concealed gun in public.**
 - In the vast majority of US states, including Colorado, a person must have a permit to carry a loaded, concealed handgun in public. These laws ensure that core public safety standards are preserved when people carry guns in public places.
 - Permitless carry bills seek to repeal these important public safety laws, allowing people to carry concealed guns in public without a permit or safety training.
 - **Eighty-eight percent** of Americans think you should get a permit before carrying a concealed handgun in public.¹
- ❑ **S 116 would dramatically lower the bar for who can carry a concealed handgun in public in Colorado—to include dangerous people and those with no firearms training.**
 - **Dangerous people:** Under current Colorado law, a sheriff can deny concealed handgun permits to an applicant when, based on documented evidence, the sheriff has a reasonable belief that the applicant presents a danger to self or to others.² But S 116 would strip sheriffs of this authority, and allow these dangerous people to legally carry hidden, loaded handguns throughout the state.
 - **No firearms training:** Most states require a handgun safety course before a person can get a permit and carry a concealed handgun in public. Under current Colorado law, applicants for concealed handgun permits must demonstrate competence with a handgun, generally attained through completion of a handgun training class.³ But under S 116, people who have never completed handgun safety training would be able to legally carry hidden, loaded handguns on our city streets.
 - **Chronic alcohol users:** Under current Colorado law, sheriffs deny concealed handgun permits to people who chronically and habitually use alcoholic beverages to the extent that their normal faculties are impaired.⁴ But under S 116, chronic alcohol users would be able to legally carry hidden, loaded handguns in public.

¹ Strategies 360 Survey, March 2015.

² C.R.S. 18-12-203(2).

³ C.R.S. 18-12-203(1)(h).

⁴ C.R.S. 18-12-203(1)(e).