



Missouri House Bill 1250: Concealed Handguns in Public With No Permit, No Training

- ❑ **Bottom Line:** HB 1250 would dismantle Missouri’s concealed weapon permitting system, allowing people to carry concealed, loaded guns in public without a permit or firearm safety training. By removing Missouri’s concealed weapon permit requirement, HB 1250 would eliminate some of Missouri’s most basic, common-sense public safety laws—including those that prohibit people recently convicted of assault or multiple drug crimes from carrying concealed weapons. 76% of Missourians – including 72% of those in gun-owning households - oppose permitless concealed carry.
- ❑ **HB 1250 would dismantle Missouri’s permitting system, making it one of the only states where it is legal to carry a concealed handgun in public without a permit.**
 - In 46 states, including Missouri, a person must acquire a permit before he or she may legally carry a concealed handgun in public.¹ These permits ensure that certain core public safety standards are preserved when people carry concealed guns in public places.
 - HB 1250 would repeal this important public safety law, letting people—including some violent criminals—carry concealed guns in public without a permit or safety training.
 - According to an April 2015 survey, **76% of Missourians** oppose letting people carry concealed guns in public without a permit. This includes 72% of people in gun-owning households, and 72% of people in concealed-carry permit households. Nearly **two-thirds** of voters reported that they would be **more likely to vote against a candidate** who supports permitless carry.²
- ❑ **H.B. 1250 would lower the bar for who can carry a concealed, loaded gun under Missouri law to include people with violent criminal histories and people who have had no gun safety training.**
 - **No firearms training.** Missouri currently requires a person to complete firearms safety training in order to get a concealed weapon permit—including a live fire test in which the applicant demonstrates competence at a firing range. The training must also include instruction on safely handling loaded handguns, the basic principles of marksmanship, and the laws relating to justifiable use of force.³ **HB 1250 would repeal these requirements and allow people with no safety training at all to carry concealed guns in public.**
 - **Certain violent criminals.** Under current Missouri law, people who have been convicted of a violent misdemeanor—such as assault—in the past five years cannot get a concealed carry permit. **Under HB 1250, these criminals would be legally allowed to carry concealed weapons in public.**
 - **Repeat drunk drivers and drug criminals.** Missouri law prohibits people who have been convicted of multiple DUIs or drug crimes within the last five years from getting a permit to carry concealed.⁴ **Under HB 1250, these repeat criminals would be legally allowed to carry concealed handguns in public in Missouri.**
 - **People who pose a danger.** Missouri law currently allows law enforcement to deny a concealed weapon permit to a person who poses a danger to himself or others.⁵ **HB 1250 would allow people known to pose a threat to carry concealed guns in public.**

¹ R.S.Mo. §§ 571.030, 571.107. Alaska, Arizona, Vermont, and Wyoming are the only states that do not require a permit to carry a concealed handgun in public.

² SurveyUSA, Missouri Likely Voters Strongly Oppose Gun Carry Without a Permit; Do Not Want Any Felons in the State to Be Allowed to Own a Gun, Apr. 14, 2015, at <http://bit.ly/1P3uiIR>.

³ R.S.Mo. § 571.111.

⁴ R.S.Mo. § 571.101(2)(4).

⁵ R.S.Mo. § 571.101(2)(7).